

Closures cut South Wales coalfield to a single pit

By TIM JONES

THE South Wales coalfield, which once fuelled the Empire and whose militancy made the establishment tremble, is to be reduced to just one pit employing fewer than 400 men.

British Coal announced yesterday that Betws colliery, near Ammanford, Dyfed, and the Taff Merthyr pit at Trelewis, Mid Glamorgan, are to close with the loss of nearly 500 jobs. At the same time, more than 450 jobs are to go with the closure of Bolsover colliery in north Derbyshire.

From next year, only Tower

colliery at Hirwaun, Mid Glamorgan, employing 370 men will remain. In Cardiff, which became the greatest coal exporting port in the world, the men who used to march in their thousands on gala day will become curiosities.

The valleys whose harsh conditions spawned socialism and communism became a by-word for opposition to the Tories. Maerdy in the Rhonda, which rejoiced in being known as Britain's most militant pit, closed after the 1984-5 miners' strike. It was known as little Moscow and mourners at funerals would wear red sashes and sing the Red Flag.

Just before the strike, which divided the National Union of Mineworkers because of the refusal of Arthur Scargill and his colleagues to hold a ballot, the coalfield employed more than 20,000 men in 28 pits. Nationally, there are now only 50 pits employing just over 40,000 miners compared with the 138,000 who worked 133 collieries in 1985. Since then, productivity per man has doubled.

Miners and union officials at Betws and Taff Merthyr have been told that plans to develop new coalfields have been cancelled for commercial and geological reasons. Betws drift mine, opened in 1978 as a showpiece pit, is now reduced to 95 miners.

Des Duffield, the last and retired president of the South Wales National Union of Mineworkers, said: "The battle has been lost. Before the strike I staged a sit-in to save my pit but we did not win national support. I am 52 now and don't suppose I will work again."

In north Derbyshire, Bolsover is one of the area's three remaining pits. Twenty years ago, there were 21. British Coal said that it could not see the Bolsover colliery continuing beyond March next year and if performance did not improve the end could come much sooner.

Detectives seek twins in Ireland

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY

SCOTLAND Yard detectives flew to the Irish republic last night to try to piece together details leading up to the kidnapping of baby Farrah Quli. Both Irish and British police have been unable to trace the twins which kidnapper Karen McSweeney claims she gave up for adoption before snatching the six-month-old baby last week.

Two detectives arrived in Dublin last night, primarily to investigate further the actual kidnapping and the disappearance of jewellery from Farrah's parents' home in East Ham, east London.

Although Scotland Yard would give no further details of the enquiries, Irish police confirmed that they would be seeking the detectives' help in solving the mystery of the twins' whereabouts. The search for the children, Chloe and Christopher, for whom no birthplace has been found, switched to Ireland after relatives told Karen's parents that she planned to give birth in Ireland when she vanished for three months from London in February.

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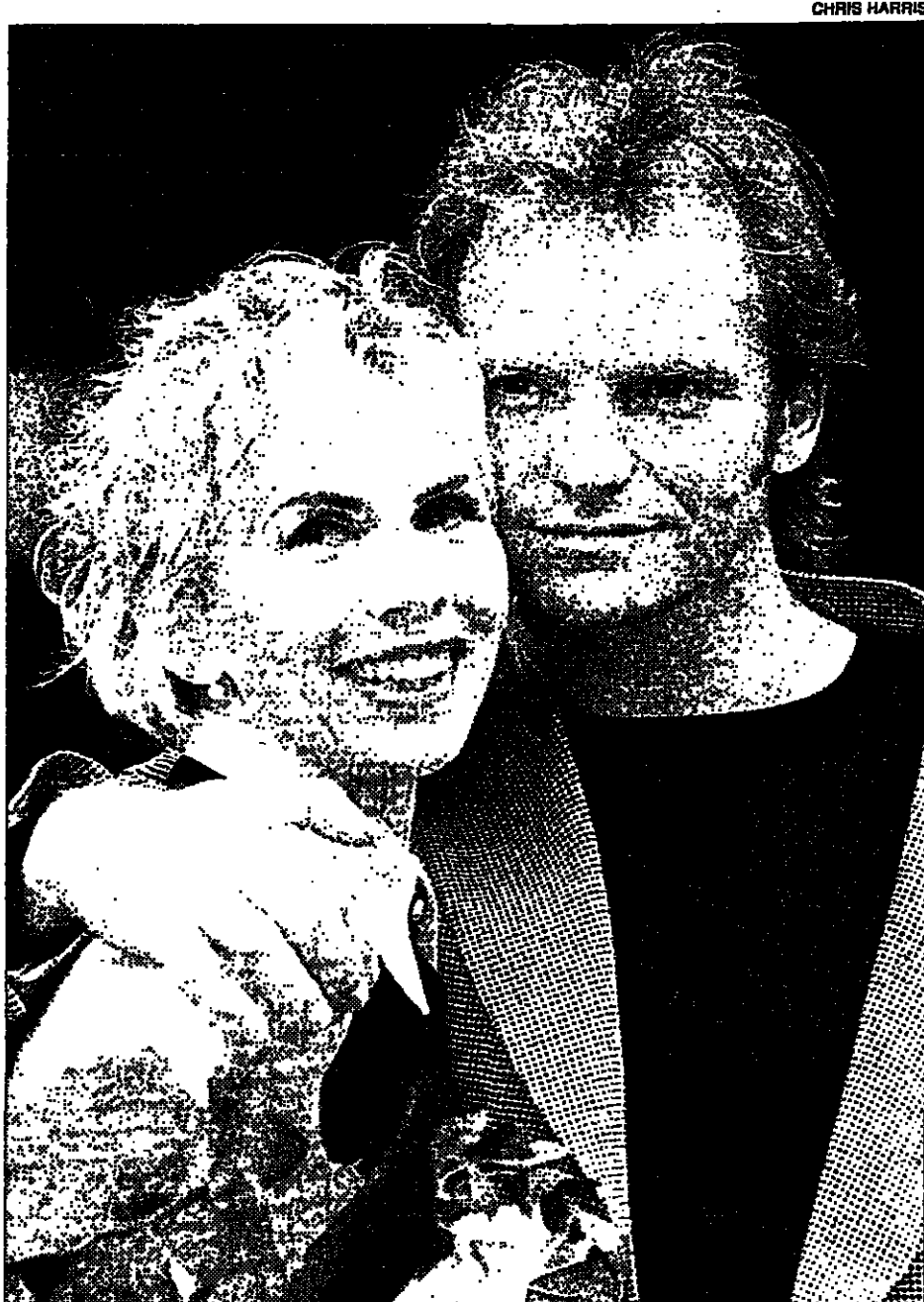
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Casually chic: Sting and Trudie Styler pose for photographs at their wedding

Universities promise extra places

As A-level results come out, schools are fighting to head performance tables, write John O'Leary and Matthew d'Ancona

LEADING state schools yesterday vied for position in a survey by *The Times* of the A-level results received by 300,000 candidates, as universities promised to provide extra places if necessary for the record numbers of school-leavers achieving high grades.

The survey of 60 schools used the scoring system of the Universities Central Council for Admissions (Ucas), awarding 10 points for a grade A, 8 for a B, 6 for a C, 4 for a D, and 2 for an E. Extra points were awarded for AS marks, ranging from 5 for an A to 1 for an E.

King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Boys, in

Birmingham, achieved the highest score of 28 points, equivalent to an average of 2 As and a B at A level per pupil, with an overall pass rate of 94 per cent for its 89 candidates. Roger Dancy, the school's head, said: "We are lucky that we have such highly qualified teachers and we have a very low turnover of staff so pupils can get to know them and ask for help with any problems. We also have reasonably small classes and a friendly atmosphere and of course we have intelligent pu-

pils because we are a grammar school."

The schools surveyed, all of which achieved high standards last year, disputed claims that science subjects were declining and that the fourth successive rise in national pass rates indicated a fall in standards. John Smart, acting head of King David High School in Liverpool, which achieved an average Ucas score of 19, said there was no deterioration. "We've maintained a high standard since last year with 50 per cent at A and B and an 89 per cent pass rate. We're also pleased with regard to the science scores and still have a strong cohort of pupils in the science subjects and in mathematics."

Alex Begbie, head teacher of Kenilworth School, said that the proportion of grades A, B and C had risen among its candidates. "In maths we had 29 entries of which 10 were As and in physics we had 27 entries of which 20 got one of the top three grades."

All schools will be required to publish their results from next year but some are choosing to exercise their right to privacy for the last time. Valerie Booth, head of St Albans girls' school, Hertfordshire,

Sting weds actress girl friend

STING, the multimillionaire rock star, yesterday married his girl friend in a simple ceremony at a register office.

He cuddled and kissed Trudie Styler, the actress and television producer, for photographers afterwards but his only comment was: "Bye, bye, thank you." Asked why it had taken them ten years to wed, his bride smiled and shook her head.

As they left Camden register office, north London, Trudie threw her bouquet of red roses towards photographers. The couple were accompanied by four friends, including their witnesses William Francis, Sting's tour manager, and Colleen Atwood, a costume designer. Mr Francis said he had always expected the couple to marry. "He didn't want to rush things."

He said the couple planned to have lunch at their home in Highgate, north London, which once belonged to Sir Yehudi Menuhin, and then go to their £2 million Elizabethan mansion in Wiltshire. The marriage will be blessed on Saturday at a much bigger occasion in a Wiltshire church.

Sting, 40, arrived at the rainswept concrete office wearing a black T-shirt with a beige jacket. Trudie wore a simple black dress with a white collar and black gloves.

The couple have three children - Mickey, eight, Jake, seven, and Coco, two. It is her first marriage but his second.

said that the county council's decision not to release results was fair.

"I would love to be able to shout our results from the rooftops. But there are schools down the road who would be greatly hurt if I did. They do terrific work in lifting the standard of their pupils. Just because that does not figure in the top schools list does not make them bad schools."

University applications are up 12 per cent this year and pressure for places is expected to be high. The Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals said institutions would honour all offers of places.

Clerical workers in the new universities caused little disruption with a 24-hour strike yesterday to coincide with the publication of results, employers said. Nalgo, the local government union, said it had attracted massive support with 11,000 clerical workers and administrators taking part.

Some students who found that they did not have the grades they wanted were unable to contact admissions tutors. Nalgo leaders will meet next week to decide whether to implement a rolling programme of two and three-day strikes. The employers have said that they will not improve a 4.3 per cent pay offer in response to the union's 10 per cent claim.

Results record, page 1

SIXTY OF THE BEST STATE SCHOOLS

	Pupil No.	UCCA score average
King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Boys, Birmingham	89	28
Chelmsford County School for Girls, Essex	105	27
King Edward VI Five Ways, Birmingham	86	24
Royal Grammar, High Wycombe	78	24
Ernst & Skinner, Skipton	78	24
Newstead Wood, Orpington	98	23
The Judd, Tonbridge, Kent	110	23
Tonbridge County High School	84	22
King Edward VI Aston, Birmingham	89	22
King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Girls, Birmingham	74	22
Hendrick Grammar, Reading	77	21
Hennetta Barnett, London	77	21
Huntingdon, York	68	21
Kiley Grammar, Yorkshire	68	21
Tonbridge Grammar School for Girls, Kent	97	20
Tiffin Girls School, Kingston-upon-Thames	92	20
King Edward VI Handsworth, Birmingham	110	20
Penrith, Aberystwyth	78	20
King David High School, Liverpool	50	19
St Olave's, Orpington	53	19
Dr Challoner's High, Bucks	140	19
Queen Mary's, Walsall	120	19
King Edward VI, Chelmsford	140	19
Tiffin Boys School, Kingston-upon-Thames	117	19
Colyton Grammar, Devon	50	19
Latymer, north London	170	19
Beaconsfield High, Bucks	120	19
Wycombe High School, High Wycombe	154	18
Queen Katherine, Kent	75	18
Dame Alice Owen's, Potters Bar	97	18
Lancaster Royal Grammar School, Lancs	118	18
Westcliff High School, Westcliff-on-Sea	108	18
Howard of Effingham, Surrey	97	18
Bishop Wordsworth, Salisbury	94	18
Watford Girls Grammar School, Herts	101	17
Durham Johnson, Durham	100	17
Maidstone Grammar, Kent	176	17
Old Swinford Hospital, Stourbridge	77	16
Woodhouse School, Finchley	245	16
King's School, Grantham	72	16
Richmond, North Yorks	76	16
Bishop Gore High, Swanses	90	16
Wallington High School for Boys, Wallington	70	16
Kenilworth School, Kenilworth	96	16
Simon Langton, Canterbury	95	16
St Bernard's Convent, Slough	95	16
Glantaf, Cardiff	75	16
Glanchwyd, St Asaph	83	16
Frans, Bangor	83	16
Bulth Wells High, Powys	28	15
Oxted County, Surrey	118	15
Owain Rhymyri, Bangor	30	15
Brynteg, Bridgend	120	15
Dartford Grammar School, Kent	92	15
Lord William's, Thame	110	15
Nailsea, Avon	105	14
Yale College, Wrexham	408	13
Benton Park School, Rawdon, Leeds	89	12
Davenant Foundation, Loughton, Essex	95	12

Additional reporting by Sarah True, Alexander Oakley and Dominic Tanner

NEWS IN BRIEF

Security alert closes stations

Thousands of commuters in London faced long delays last night after a security alert closed five main line stations and all Underground lines except one (Adam Fresco writes).

The alert began after a radio station received a coded warning at 6.20pm. King's Cross, Charing Cross, Victoria, London Bridge and St Pancras British Rail stations were closed and on the Underground only the Central Line remained in operation. British Transport police evacuated the stations before a thorough search lasting two hours. Police said the threat was timed to cause maximum disruption.

Underground passengers were told they had to leave trains due to a serious security alert. Tens of thousands of commuters were delayed to all destinations in Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire, Kent, Surrey and Sussex. Police said that when a caller uses a recognised coded message they have no choice but to treat it seriously.

Cab driver accused

A minicab driver arrested early yesterday by police hunting a man who abducted a woman and held her captive for 16 hours has been charged with rape and false imprisonment. Scotland Yard said last night, Philip Miller, 38, of Norwood, southeast London, will appear before Tower Bridge magistrates today, charged with the rape and false imprisonment of a 26-year-old woman between August 11 and 12. The woman was abducted after being picked up by a man claiming to be a cab driver at 1pm on Tuesday last week outside the Golden Dragon pub at Honor Oak Estate, southeast London. She said she ordered a car from a local minicab firm from a telephone box and asked to be taken to Peckham. Instead she was taken to a room raped and held prisoner until the next day.

Stolen birds found

A pair of rare hyacinthine macaws stolen from London zoo has been discovered dumped in a bin, the zoo said yesterday. The male was dead, the female "just alive". The birds, one of only a handful of breeding pairs in Britain, were found by a BT engineer near Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire, on Wednesday. The birds, taken with two of their eggs on July 31, are worth about £25,000 on the black market as a breeding pair. Zoo officials believe that they were stolen to order by specialist thieves who dumped them when the deal fell through. "There is a massive, terrible trade in these rare birds. This is just one hideous example," the zoo said when the birds were stolen. The female is now being treated by vets, but officials fear that it be take a long time before she is able to breed again.

Conciliation urged

Conciliation should be a central theme in proposals from the Lord Chancellor intended to make divorce "faster and friendlier", the Bishop of Liverpool said yesterday. The Right Rev David Sheppard, chairman of the Church of England's Board for Social Responsibility, welcomed the proposed change in divorce procedures, which will have the minimum two-year cooling-off period for couples and abolish the compulsory five-year wait before a contested divorce is granted. However, he urged the government to ensure in the law the opportunity for conciliation. "The real question is not how long a period there should be between a couple filing for divorce and being granted one. What matters is how that time is used," Dr Sheppard said. He also called for adequate funding for a new network of mediators to discuss custody and financial arrangements.

Journalist died in debt



TV current affairs reporter Bernard Falk, left, has left nothing to his family in his will, which was published yesterday, because his assets were swallowed up by debt. The journalist, who worked on *Newsweek* and *Sixty Minutes*, died aged 47 after suffering a heart attack on his speedboat in 1990. He left estate valued at £224,123 gross, but his company was wound up.

Latest wills, page 13

Bee movement banned

The Welsh Office has banned the movements of bees in a six-mile radius of 12 hives which are believed to be the first in the region infected with the deadly varroasis mite. The hives are on 35 acres of land at Marros, Carmarthen Bay, in Dyfed, owned by a couple from Plymouth, Devon. The varroasis mite infects a bee's blood. It is virtually untreatable and has been found in only British bees during the past year. Maureen McLeod, of the Carmarthenshire Beekeeping Association, said: "They will have to destroy all their hives. The disease is like rabies and once it is here it is very difficult to get rid of."

Charity shows a leg

Relief aid for the former Soviet Union now includes more than just clothing and food. The next consignment going east from a West Yorkshire church charity will include fights for the Kirov ballet in St Petersburg. The fights come from the Central School of Ballet in London and the Northern Ballet in Halifax, seven miles away from the charity's home at the Good Shepherd church in Mytholmroyd, near Hebden Bridge. "When we heard that one of the most famous ballet companies in the world needed help, we couldn't refuse," Anna Izza of the Northern Ballet said. "It's the spiritual home of ballet and we were glad to help." Next month the charitable Rock Bottom Travel Company will take the ballet wear, clothing and medicines to distribution centres in Poland and Russia.

Boy killed unlawfully

A verdict of unlawful killing was recorded at an inquest yesterday on a teenager who died when a stolen car, in which he was a passenger, crashed into a garden wall. James Turnbull, the Bradford coroner, said that to describe the death as an accident was a misnomer, and he was unhappy about recording a misadventure verdict. A verdict of unlawful killing would show the concern that he and others felt about that type of behaviour. James Dunne, 18, of Braithwaite, West Yorkshire, was named as the driver of the car in which James Lawrence, 16, of Braithwaite, died. PC David Taylor, who went to the scene of the crash near Keighley in April, said that Mr Dunne was injured and would not be ready to face any proceedings for some time. The case would be reviewed in six months.

Teenager stabbed

A man was being questioned last night by Thames Valley police after a teenager received fatal knife wounds yesterday outside a social services office in Banbury, Oxfordshire. Ian Barnes, 17, was stabbed in the neck as he waited to see a social worker. Police said that a kitchen knife had been used in the attack. He died in an ambulance on his way to hospital. A blood-stained knife was subsequently recovered from a waste basket at Banbury railway station. Less than an hour after the stabbing, a man was arrested at Oxford station.



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Editor explains decision to publish intimate photographs of duchess on holiday

Watchdog's head rejects demand for intrusion law

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

THE chairman of the Press Complaints Commission yesterday rejected calls for the introduction of privacy laws after the publication of intimate pictures of the Duchess of York on holiday in the south of France.

Lord McGregor of Durris, commission chairman, said that should it receive a formal complaint it would investigate the matter. "We have not received any complaint. There has been no contact, formal or informal, since publication of the pictures."

Publication of the pictures has again raised the issue of privacy but until a complaint is received the commission cannot consider if there has been a breach of the Code of Practice. Although some people argued yesterday that the manner in which the pictures had been obtained was clearly distasteful, others said that the *Daily Mirror* would have a strong argument that publication was in the public interest.

Lord McGregor said that he would resist attempts to curb the press. He said that it would be very difficult to establish a law on privacy which would not at the same time permit governments and other powerful bodies to blunt criticism by the media.

"Every body which has discussed such a law has recommended against it precisely because the advantage of protecting the privacy of private persons will inevitably result in protecting the misbehaviour of public persons," he said.

A law of privacy would carry grave dangers for freedom of expression, Lord McGregor said. "A free press is not a nice press."

Before the pictures were published in yesterday's *Daily Mirror*, solicitors acting for Mr Bryan approached Lord McGregor to discuss if he would try to persuade the

paper's editor not to publish them. The first approach came in a telephone call from Mr Bryan's solicitors, the firm of Peter Carter Ruck, late on Tuesday night. They asked Lord McGregor if it was possible for him to approach the *Daily Mirror* with the aim of persuading it not to publish the pictures.

Lord McGregor said: "I told them that the commission was not in the business of censorship and that the principle of prior restraint had never been operated in this country since the middle of the eighteenth century."

He received a second call on Wednesday and told the lawyer that the commission could not take a position on the matter as it had not seen the pictures and was uncertain there were any pictures.

Last night, the Conservative MP Nicholas Winterton said that the pictures appeared to be a flagrant breach of privacy but said their publication should not prompt a legal clampdown on the media. "People in public life have to recognise their behaviour is of public interest and should act accordingly. If you are not prepared to do that you want to make sure that when you are not doing it you are not in a position where you can be photographed."

Richard Stott, editor of the *Daily Mirror*, defended his decision to publish seven pages of pictures, which were bought for an estimated £50,000. He said: "I don't think someone in the duchess's position, as a member of the archetypal family which the royal family is, is in a position to do the kind of things that she is doing with Mr Bryan in the pictures we carried today."

Pictures condemned, page 1
Royal indiscretions, page 10
Diary, page 10
Leading article, page 11



Centre of attention: John Bryan, friend of the Duchess of York, surrounded by a media throng outside his London home yesterday

Public figures use courts to protect privacy

LAW covering privacy operate in north America and several European countries and have helped celebrities, politicians and royalty guard their private lives.

In France, Brigitte Bardot successfully sued a photographer who photographed her in her home without permission. Lawyers for the Duchess of Windsor stopped pictures of her sitting in a bathchair in her garden from being published in her life.

In Spain, a more informal arrangement operates where matters regal are concerned. While a privacy law exists, there is an unwritten code among the press that it will not publish pictures of the royal family similar to those printed of the Duchess of York.

There is no right to privacy in Britain and therefore no right of action in the courts

for breach of privacy. In some countries, the civil law has developed a tort of infringement of privacy but the Calcutt committee, having reviewed all the evidence, concluded that an overwhelming case for the introduction of a statutory tort of infringement of privacy had so far not been made.

These matters are dealt with differently in France where information about a citizen's family, personal and sexual life is protected. The law developed at the initiative of the courts and was codified in 1970 where under Article Nine of the Civil Code it is an offence to publish information, real or speculative, about an individual's personal relationships, state of health, private finances or domestic arrangements. It is a criminal offence to intrude on a private place by taking a

photograph or making a recording. Keeping or using the material is a further offence. Denmark: it is an offence punishable with up to six months in prison to trespass into private homes; obtain access to private papers; use mechanical devices to eavesdrop on private conversations; take photographs of people when on private property; communicate to another person any information or picture about another which concerns his or her private life; to violate the peace of another by intruding on him, persistently communicating

with him or otherwise inconvenience him after having been warned by the police to leave the person alone. It is a criminal offence for a newspaper to print a photograph taken of a person on any private property without his consent.

The Netherlands: under the civil code there is a general liability for causing harm to others and this has been interpreted judicially as harming people by publishing damaging private information about them, even if true.

Germany: the Penal Code punishes a number of grosser invasions of privacy. It is a criminal offence to trespass into another person's home, record private conversations and obtain some private information without permission. Invasion of privacy is widely actionable in the civil

courts and there is civil remedy for a newspaper publishing inaccurate personal information and refusing to correct it.

Canada: some provinces have enacted torts of privacy but it has been left to the courts to define privacy.

United States: intrusion upon an individual's privacy has come to be recognised as a tort throughout most of the US and appears to cover intrusion into an individual's solitude and publication of private matters violating ordinary decency. This has to be put against the First Amendment which lays down the right to free speech and freedom of the press. The press is generally allowed to publish almost any true material about public figures on the basis that virtually all human activity reveals the character of the person involved.

Relatives to sue driver in fatal crash

BY DAVID YOUNG

RELATIVES of two men who were among five killed in a motorway crash are to take civil action after the driver involved was convicted of careless driving yesterday.

Adrian Ryder, 25, was found guilty by a jury at Chelmsford Crown Court, Essex, after a four-day hearing. Relatives of the dead men cried as he was cleared of a specimen charge of causing death by reckless driving. The jury called for improvements on the M25 where the accident happened.

Judge Beaumont, QC, fined Ryder £250 for careless driving and £100 for driving with two worn tyres. He was ordered to pay £50 costs and disqualified from driving for three months.

The court had been told that Ryder, unemployed, of Billbrook, near Wolverhampton, lost control of his Ford Sierra in heavy rain on the M25 at Brentwood, Essex, last September. The car aquaplaned and hit the wheel of a 38-ton lorry, causing the driver to lose control. The lorry careered across the central reservation and landed across the three lanes of the opposite carriageway. Three cars ploughed into it, killing five people: Peter Greenwood, 40, his brother Dennis, 42, from Chelmsford, Essex; Danny Miller, 60, from Burnham-on-Crouch, Essex, and his son Ian, 34, from Mayland, Essex; and Martin Argent, from Maldon, Essex.

Before delivering its verdict, the jury passed a note to the judge saying that it was unanimously agreed that hazardous warning lights should have been in operation on the stretch of motorway where the accident happened. The judge asked the Crown Prosecution Service to contact the highway authority to ensure that action was taken.

Judge Beaumont told Ryder: "You are going to have to live with the consequences of what happened for the rest of your life and that is far greater punishment than I can impose."

Theresa Kingsnorth, the Miller family's solicitor, said after the hearing that a civil action had begun on behalf of Danny Miller and was about to start on behalf of Ian.

Dogged pack snaps at the royal heels

SINCE the day Queen Victoria was photographed with her gillie, John Brown, in a rather informal pose hinting at their warm relationship, members of the royal family have had cause to complain about intrusive photographers.

There is a small band of determined men armed with ladders, telephoto lenses, bare-faced cheek, initiative and plenty of patience who believe that the only photograph worth having is one their subject does not want taken. Such pictures of royalty command the highest prices. A hint of sexual scandal can command a fortune.

According to last month's *American Photo* magazine, a

The art of taking photographs that the subject least wants to see is a demanding but often lucrative one, Lin Jenkins writes

single shot of Princess Caroline of Monaco with the tennis player Guillermo Vilas in 1982 was worth £155,000. Ron Galella, now 61 and considered the doyen of the American paparazzi, still gets royalties from his shots of Jackie Onassis in the 1970s and 1980s. His dogged pursuit of her brought him before the courts, where he had to promise never to photograph her again on pain of imprisonment.

In Britain, much of the

modern style evolves from Ray Bellisario, whose royal pictures, including the first of Princess Margaret in a swimsuit, led to a court appearance for taking an unauthorised photograph in Windsor Park, and more profitably, a book in 1972 titled *To Tread on Royal Toes*.

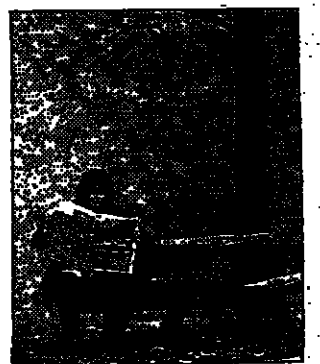
Richard Young, who specialises in celebrity photographs, said: "You have to know the people you are

going to photograph, but what is really important is doing your homework and getting to know the people around them."

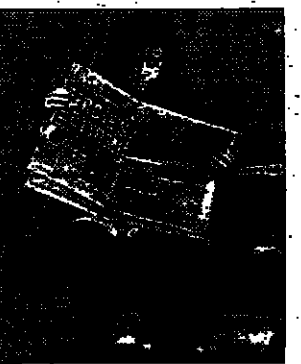
Daniel Angeli, the Paris-based photographer who snapped the Duchess of York on holiday with her Texan friend John Bryan, has a reputation for doing his homework. For years his summers have been spent in St Tropez recording the famous at play. He knows every important villa, every bar and restaurant, but will never be drawn out where he goes.

There are few of his kind in Britain. Those who work as royal photographers for newspapers regard themselves as outside the pack, and some of those have even gone on to be embraced by the royal family. Tim Graham, who never climbed a tree armed with a telephoto lens, took the coming-of-age pictures of Prince Edward and had further lucrative commissions from the Prince and Princess of Wales.

Julian Herbert, a *Times* photographer who used to pound the royal beat, said: "Interest is not what it was. The Duchess of York really was a godsend because she was always doing silly things, like learning to fly and learning to drive a carriage."



Moving image: the camera's views of a woman 100ft away, using a 300mm lens, left, a 600mm lens, centre, and a 600mm lens with a 2x converter



STOP PRESS FRANCE - WITH THE TIMES AND LBC

Each week during the summer *The Times* and LBC will bring you news of last minute bargains for travellers to France.

BY HARVEY ELLIOTT TRAVEL CORRESPONDENT
FRENCH cities are returning to life as their inhabitants trickle back from their August holidays, jamming many of the main roads especially into Paris. The main rush from Britain is also now coming to an end and although some inbound journeys may be very busy demand outbound is lessening.



LBC NEWS TALK 97.3

Roadworks are also causing jams on the N31 in Rouen.

OFFERS

The AA warns of "massive delays" on the périphérique around Paris as the south western section has contra-flow working between Porte d'Orleans and Porte de Sevres.

The first of the late season special offers are being made by travel companies. Wallace Arnold is offering five nights' hotel accommodation and a

coach tour of Normandy with a courier to introduce customers to the region's food and wines at £255. Thomas Cook can provide return flights to a range of French cities on scheduled airlines from £175. The Paris Travel Service has three-night coach breaks to central Paris from £105 and 'Hoverspeed' is charging £65 for a same day return for a car and four passengers to Boulogne. Sealink Stena Line is launching one-night shopping breaks in the Channel ports from £47 for a car and two passengers.

FLIGHTS

Air UK says that inbound flights from Paris to Leeds-Bradford are very busy all weekend although most other routes still have plenty of available seats. The T.A.T. service between Brive and Stansted is full this weekend and Air France has only

limited availability on flights to Paris between mid-morning and early evening. British Midland has plenty of seats on its eight services a day to Paris.

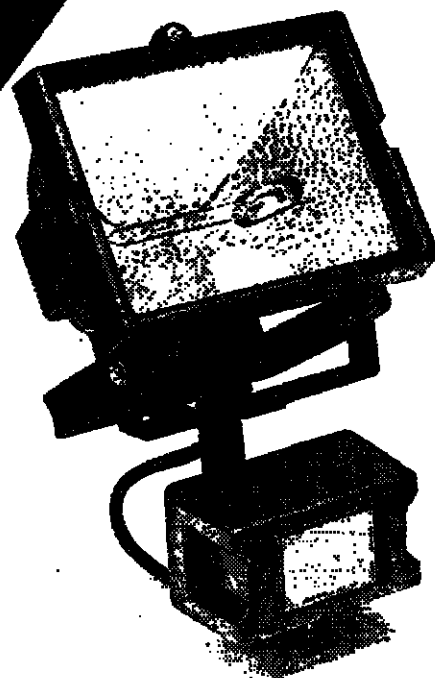
FERRIES

Brittany Ferries has plenty of space on most afternoon services but ferries between Plymouth and Roscoff are full today and Sunday. The route between Portsmouth and Cherbourg is also heavily booked with no car space on many services.

RATES

The French franc remains stable at 10.05-10.08, customer buying according to Travelex. Angela Rippon will be interviewing a *Times* journalist on her *Drivetime* programme next Thursday, August 27, at 6.50pm on LBC Newstalk.

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The fortunes of the pioneers are undergoing close scrutiny as new wave queues to opt out

Hospital's success suggests healthy prognosis for trusts

ON April 1 1991, 57 NHS trusts came into being. Their financial and operational success has varied greatly. One, the Royal Liverpool University Hospital trust, formerly the Royal Liverpool Hospital, has fully exploited its new status to become one of the most highly regarded new-style hospitals.

A 6 per cent increase in the number of patients treated, compared with the national 3.7 per cent increase, has cut waiting lists, while a policy of overall cost reduction has been maintained. With a falling budget and declining population, finances have been tight, but the hospital claims to have cut management costs without sacrificing patient care.

Self-governing trusts have not lacked vocal critics. Internal management is accused of introducing undue commercial and financial pressures into hospitals where none should exist. It is undeniable that the Liverpool trust has managed well where others have not.

Alan Wilks, the trust's director of finance, said that on-site, hands-on management allowed the hospital to make decisions and implement new schemes far more quickly. Managers and doctors no longer have to spend months or even years lobbying health

Critics of opting out are many, but Alison Roberts finds one trust where everyone seems to be benefiting

authorities for approval of ideas now that strategic planning, headed by medical director Austin Carty, is based within the hospital.

Mr Wilks said: "From the first of April 1991, all medical services were split into clinical directorates. Seven surgical and seven medical directors run the finances, operations and clinical side of their department. They have come up with some tremendously innovative ideas."

One of the longest waiting lists used to be in the urology clinic, where patients faced a 28-week wait for operations. The system was being held up by patients suffering from a condition in which blood appears in the urine. It was suggested that separate facilities be set up where doctors could see urgent patients on an ad hoc basis rather than allowing them to clog up the clinic's day-to-day running; a simple but extremely effective solution that cut operation waiting time to five weeks.

Mr Wilks said: "Suddenly the clinic started working.

Before trust status, we would have had to go back to the health authority and ask their permission to set up the special facilities and spend six months doing it."

Bringing St Paul's Eye Hospital on to the main hospital site will save the trust £800,000 a year in laboratory and portering costs. Jobs have been lost, but the savings make other projects more viable. A new intensive care unit, under discussion for a decade, has been opened at a cost of £700,000.

Nursing staff have also benefited from a management team in constant dialogue with those on the wards. Each directorate has one senior nurse member, and a strong nursing leadership has been allowed a freer rein to implement new ideas. Susan Waterworth, a clinical nurse and directorate manager, said that each patient was assigned a named nurse.

before we became a trust. They have been developed and supported since then," she said.

Nurses work in teams of three providing constant cover for their colleagues' patients. Photographs of the nurses adorn the ward walls.

There is flexibility over funding, but balancing the books remains difficult. Non-executive board members have backgrounds in business and charitable fundraising; an investment adviser has been employed and an academic from Liverpool University is part of the management.

The trust was also the first to negotiate more sophisticated contracts with its 14 health authority purchasers. Hospitals can run into snags during the first year of the reforms because increased productivity was not matched by funding. Derek Day, of the National Association of Health Authority Trusts, said many service providers were left short of cash. The Royal London Trust Hospital specified a stable proportion of hospitals, not all of them trusts, when it announced a £4 million shortfall and the loss of 600 jobs.

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Corridors of power: nurses, allocated to patients on a one-to-one basis, now have more say at ward level

New Investment Rates from the Bristol & West

Effective 21st August 1992 (\$ Effective 1st September 1992)

ACCOUNT	AMOUNT INVESTED	GROSS RATE OF INTEREST PA (VARIABLE)	GROSS C.A.R.**	NET PA	NET C.A.R.**
High 30	£100,000+	9.70%		7.25%	
	£50,000+	9.50%		7.05%	
	£25,000+	9.20%		6.75%	
	£10,000+	8.80%		6.45%	
	£5,000+	8.50%		6.15%	
	£2,500+	8.20%		5.85%	
	£1,000+	7.70%		5.35%	
High 30 Monthly Income	£500,000+	8.20%	8.70%	6.07%	2.00%
	£250,000+	8.20%	8.60%	6.00%	1.92%
	£125,000+	8.15%	8.50%	6.00%	1.88%
	£62,500+	8.05%	8.40%	5.95%	1.82%
	£31,250+	7.87%	8.20%	5.75%	1.67%
	£15,625+	7.44%	7.70%	5.25%	1.23%
Select (H/Life, Fixed Rate Bond & Secure Investment Bond First Issue, Treble Rate Bond Specialist Edition Bonds, - All new Closed Issues)	£300,000+	6.80%		6.60%	
	£150,000+	6.80%		6.45%	
	£75,000+	6.50%		6.15%	
	£37,500+	7.40%		6.30%	
	£18,750+	6.30%		6.00%	
	£9,375+	5.80%		5.50%	
Special Monthly Income	£50,000+	5.40%	8.80%	3.95%	0.54%
	£25,000+	5.25%	8.80%	3.75%	0.39%
	£12,500+	7.31%	8.20%	5.85%	1.80%
	£6,250+	7.10%	7.40%	5.37%	1.62%
	£3,125+	6.41%	6.80%	4.81%	1.47%
	£1,562+	5.60%	5.50%	4.12%	1.12%
Bonus Interest Bond 2 and Return Bond 5 (plus Bonus Interest Bond 1)	£25,000+	10.25%		7.91%	
Bonus Return Bond 1 (closed Issues)	£25,000+	10.25%		7.85%	
	£12,500+	9.75%		7.31%	
TESSA Plus	£5,000+	10.25%			
	£250-£2,500+	9.75%			
	£1-£500+	9.75%			
Bonus TESSA	£25,000+	9.80%			
	£100-£2,500+	8.15%			
	£1-£500+	4.25%			
No. 1 Capital (Closed Issues)	£50,000+	6.75%		6.00%	
Tiered Bond, First Class, Two Year Premium, Interest Accrued, Vantage Bond and No. 1 Growth	£25,000+	6.25%		4.80%	
	£10,000+	5.75%		4.31%	
	£2,500+	4.75%		3.30%	
Shares (Closed Issues)	£1+	1.50%	1.51%	1.10%	1.10%
Also Money Link, Deposits, Special Savings, ClientShare Investment Shares, Personal Deposits, Club Deposits, Discretionary Trusts, Ex-Thrift Investment, Ex-Thrift 7 Day					
Snappy (Closed Issues)	£1+	2.80%		2.10%	
Savings Shares	£1+	2.80%		2.10%	
Special Deposits	£1+	1.50%		1.10%	
High 30 Donations Account	£100,000+	9.20%		6.90%	
	£50,000+	9.10%		6.80%	
	£25,000+	8.60%		6.30%	
	£10,000+	8.10%		5.80%	
	£5,000+	7.40%		5.20%	
	£200+	7.20%		5.00%	
Balance Bond (Secure Investment Account Third Issue)		15.00%		9.75%	
Charity	£1+	7.75%		5.20%	
5 Triple Bonus (Closed Issues) (Brexit Plan)	£25,000+	6.00%		3.75%	
	£10,000+	4.50%		3.20%	
	£5,000+	4.00%		3.00%	
	£200+	3.00%		2.25%	
Overseas 3 Month Capital International First Class Bond	£25,000+	8.50%		6.25%	
	£10,000+	7.50%		5.60%	
	£5,000+	7.00%		5.25%	
	£1,000+	6.80%		4.80%	
Overseas Prime Access	£25,000+	7.40%		5.50%	
	£10,000+	7.10%		5.20%	
	£5,000+	6.80%		4.90%	
	£200+	6.10%		4.31%	
	£1+	5.20%		3.75%	
Overseas Silver Shares	£1+	5.90%	3.94%	3.90%	2.80%
Overseas Gold Shares	£1+	4.20%	4.24%	3.10%	3.17%
Overseas Special (and related accounts)	£20,000+	9.70%		7.25%	
	£10,000+	9.20%		6.90%	
	£5,000+	8.80%		6.60%	
	£200+	8.10%		6.11%	
	£1+	5.90%		5.10%	
Overseas Instant Access (and related accounts)	£20,000+	8.65%		6.40%	
	£5,000+	7.60%		5.60%	
	£1,000+	7.30%		5.40%	
	£200+	6.40%		4.80%	
	£1+	5.80%		4.70%	
Overseas Regular Savings	£1+	3.60%		2.80%	
Overseas TESSA	£1+	10.50%			
5 No. 1 Income (Closed Issues)	£50,000+	6.80%	8.75%	4.01%	0.60%
	£25,000+	6.50%	8.50%	3.80%	0.60%
	£10,000+	5.75%	8.20%	4.20%	0.40%
	£500+	4.80%	4.75%	3.40%	0.54%
5 Triple Income (Closed Issues)	£25,000+	5.60%		3.67%	0.72%
	£10,000+	4.41%		3.31%	0.20%
	£5,000+	3.34%		2.85%	0.00%
	£500+	3.00%		2.25%	0.00%
5 Overseas Income	£25,000+	8.90%	8.90%	6.14%	0.20%
	£10,000+	7.25%	7.25%	5.44%	0.00%
	£5,000+	6.75%	7.00%	5.00%	0.00%
	£1,000+	6.40%	6.60%	4.84%	0.00%

Gluten-free diet gives fresh hope to the treatment of epilepsy

By Nick Nuttall, Technology Correspondent

EPILEPTICS who have failed to respond to drugs could benefit from a gluten-free diet that avoids the consumption of foods such as wheat, rye and barley, according to medical researchers.

The switch in diet can cut the number of fits and in some cases stop seizures altogether if the change is made swiftly. The findings, published in *The Lancet*, have been made by a team of Italian researchers studying links between fits and seizures and an illness called coeliac disease.

The disease leaves some people vulnerable to gluten, a protein that damages the small intestine's ability to absorb nutrients, particularly fats. Gluten is thought to damage villi, the intestine's small, finger-like projections.

Past research has linked

coeliac disease with a condition known as Sturge-Weber syndrome, in which the side of the face turns a port-wine colour and seizures occur.

To study whether the disease might be behind epileptics without classical Sturge-Weber syndrome, the Italian team has been conducting tests on 29 patients diagnosed as having epilepsy with cerebral calcifications, tiny calcium deposits in the brain.

The tests found that they had coeliac disease although only two of these showed the kind of gastrointestinal symptoms associated with the disease at the time.

The researchers then put the patients on a gluten-free diet. Of these 29 patients, whose ages ranged from four to 30, 25 were resistant to anti-epileptic drugs.

After being switched to the

gluten-free diet, four of 20 patients examined some months later found that the number of seizures had fallen by more than half while six patients saw seizures stop altogether.

The frequency of seizures had worsened in one patient while in nine others the frequency remained the same.

The scientists believe there is evidence from the research that the benefit of switching patients to a gluten-free diet may depend on how quickly the diet is started following the start of epileptic attacks and the age of the patient.

"We found that in the six patients whose seizures stopped after the gluten-free diet, both the mean duration of epilepsy... and the mean age at the beginning of the diet were significantly lower than in the other 14 patients."

In particular these six patients were under 13 years with a mean age of 9.1 years, say the researchers, who are based at several centres including the Servizio di Neuropsichiatria Infantile, Reggio Emilia.

The researchers also believe that doctors should conduct tests for coeliac disease on patients suffering fits and with calcium brain deposits. The disease might otherwise go unnoticed in young adults and teenagers and could mean that they are not told to adopt a gluten-free diet.

Heart attack victims sometimes wait up to four hours without calling for help, according to a report published yesterday which stresses the necessity for prompt medical treatment.

The nationwide survey, carried out in six district hospitals, showed that patients had to get the necessary drugs as soon as possible after the onset of heart attack symptoms to stand the best chance of survival. But one of the main delays was caused by the patients themselves.

The report in the *British Medical Journal* showed that the quickest way for patients to be admitted to hospital was by calling an ambulance rather than their doctor. However, they might experience some hold-ups in hospital.

The research showed that delay from the onset of chest pains to drug treatment could be reduced by up to two hours if GPs asked for an ambulance immediately after a patient called. Hospital routine should also be altered to allow treatment in accident and emergency departments, the report said.

Health

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Changing landscape: the polluted Flatford lock and mill yesterday, above, and the idyllic spot seen by Constable early last century

Troubled waters bring sewage to Flatford Mill

Constable country's image has been tarnished by warnings of pollution in the River Stour, writes Michael Horsnell

THE mallards paddled aimlessly in the rain past Willy Lot's cottage, close to the gatepost from which John Constable painted his *Haywain*.

But a few yards upstream at Flatford Bridge, beside the footpath to Dedham, the familiar scene immortalised by the great landscape artist boasted an unfortunate addition yesterday.

A red warning sign beside the stile opposite Bridge Cottage warned of something unspeakable in the green waters of the River Stour, where Essex and Suffolk meet at one of Britain's most delectable beauty spots. Posted by the environmental health department of the local council, it read: "This water contains sewage effluent. Contact with the water can mean a risk of infection."

Edward Jackson, director of studies at the Field Studies Council centre at Flatford Mill, which is leased from the National Trust as a place of environmental study, said that he forbade students under 18 from swimming there and advised adults to stay out of the water.

The warning notice is a recognition of the reality of the situation. The river contains sewage from all the communities that border the Stour, he said. "But this is not an isolated or uncommon issue. All our rivers contain human effluent, albeit treated effluent."

The quality of the river is determined by the National Rivers Authority, which sets standards with which Anglian Water, the local company, has to comply. A spokeswoman for the authority said yesterday: "The Stour is not a dirty river. The fact that there is effluent in it and other rivers is a fact of industrial life nowadays."

"But it is not raw sewage we are talking about. It is properly treated effluent. We regularly sample there to ensure the water company is complying with our conditions. The fact is that we never recommend people to swim in rivers, not only for reasons of effluent but because of other bacteriological reasons too."



Babergh District Council is not responsible for the purity of the Stour, but put up the warning sign to meet its environmental health obligations. Doug Barker, assistant chief environmental health officer, said: "The lack of rainfall over the past three years means that there's not been the usual dilution of what goes into the river."

"But that doesn't mean that, if you dive in from one bank, you come up dead on the other. It's easy to get a tummy upset from river water, especially children, and we shouldn't forget it."

The tarnished image of the Stour Valley, described by Constable in 1821 as the place of the "careless boyhood" that made him a painter, was met with incredulity by the handful of tourists who braved the weather to visit Flatford Mill.

Libby Spurling, 35, a nurse from Ipswich, said: "To think the river stayed unpolluted for

WARNING
THIS WATER CONTAINS SEWAGE EFFLUENT
CONTACT WITH THE WATER CAN MEAN A RISK OF INFECTION

Danger sign: warning posted by the council

so long and yet now, a century after the industrial revolution, we have made such a mess of it. At best, it is inconsiderate pumping effluent into it."

Albert Luxembourg, 55, owner of a furniture store in Baltimore, Maryland, said: "It's a great shame in such a lovely place but common enough nowadays, I suppose, for us to expect it."

Flatford and the pastoral idyll around it inspired the *Haywain* (1821), which hangs in the National Gallery, and *Flatford Mill* (1816-7), which is in the Tate, as well

as other vivid and revolutionary paintings.

The lease on Flatford Mill was inherited from his uncle Abram in 1765 by the painter's father, John Constable, a prosperous businessman. In 1774, Golding built a large house in East Bergholt, Suffolk, which has since been demolished.

John Constable, born on June 11, 1776, the fourth of his parents' six children, was educated at Dedham grammar school and then learnt the miller's trade at his father's three mills. When his younger brother Abram took over the family business at Flatford at the turn of the century, Constable was allowed to give up milling and train as an artist in London. He was elected a Royal Academician at the age of 53.

He described nature, as he found it in the Stour Valley, as "the fountain's head, the source from whence all originally must spring".

Driver left scene of fatal crash

A young woman was killed when her car was hit by a motorist who left the scene without informing the police, magistrates were told yesterday.

Teresa Power, 26, died of multiple injuries in the crash on a country road in Warwickshire in January. Ann Fenton, 50, of Aveston, Warwickshire, who was traced by police three hours after the accident, was yesterday fined £1,500 and banned from driving for 12 months for driving without due care and attention and for failing to stop at and report an accident.

Stratford-upon-Avon magistrates were told that Fenton failed to stop at a give way sign. After the crash, she flagged down several motorists, one of whom she asked to telephone for an ambulance. Then a passing friend, who recognised her personalised registration plate, stopped and drove her first to her doctor and later to her therapist in Leamington Spa, where she was traced by police.

Neil Davidson, for the defence, said: "This was not a case of hit-and-run. She simply did not wait there long enough to give her details."

Rioters hurl slates at police

Four youths were arrested after police were pelted with slates in a riot on the rooftop of a home for troubled teenagers. Police surrounded the Arrow Project home near Penrith, Cumbria, shortly after midnight, when youngsters climbed on to the roof and began ripping away the slates. The A6 had to be closed as it was within the rioters' range.

Postman shot

A man shot a postman in the arm and leg in the van before stealing two bags of registered mail in Stamford Hill, north London. The postman's condition was described as "not serious".

Sisters appeal

Michelle Taylor, 21, and her sister Lisa, 18, both jailed last month for the murder of their son Shaughnessy, a bank clerk aged 21, are to appeal against their convictions.

Tourist verdict

A verdict of accidental death was recorded on Paul Holly, 24, who fell to his death after deciding to sleep on the roof of his holiday apartment in Corfu. Mr Holly, of Fishponds, Bristol, died of multiple injuries, an inquest in Bristol was told.

Doctors fly out

Six doctors from Middlesbrough General Hospital are to fly to Romania to operate on up to 150 patients with cleft palates and other disfigurements. They will work unpaid and will take operating equipment and drugs with them.

Cat sentences

Jonathan Passmore, 16, and Robert Chapman, 15, of Machen, Mid Glamorgan, were sentenced to four months' detention by magistrates in Caerphilly for tearing the legs off a cat and throwing it onto a bonfire. They had denied causing unnecessary suffering.

Evangelist pledges to prove miracles

By Louise Hidalgo

MORRIS Cerullo, the American evangelist and faith healer, promised yesterday to provide "irrefutable documentation" of miracle healings next year.

Critics of his mission say there is no medical proof for his claims of cures and that the sick and vulnerable could be dangerously misled.

The pledge followed a seven-week investigation by BBC television's *Heart of the Matter*, which concluded that there was scant medical backing for some of the 476 miracles that Mr Cerullo said had taken place on his one-week mission to London earlier this year.

Advertisements for the mission featured pictures of discarded wheelchairs and a broken white cane, and bore the message: "Some will see miracles for the first time." One woman who attended the mission later died after ceasing to take prescribed medication because she believed she was cured.

Mr Cerullo announced yesterday that his organisation would hold a three-day symposium on divine healing in Birmingham early next year, where medical proof of at least three cases from Mission to London would be presented.

Edinburgh shares festival wares

A triptych of arts developments has been unveiled to boost the capital's old town, reports Simon Tait

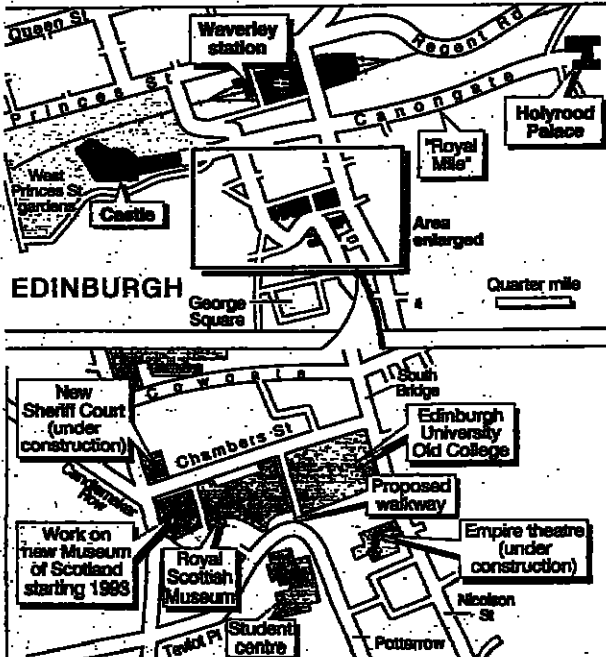
THE rundown South Bridge area of Edinburgh's historic Old Town is to become a main cultural centre, developed around the new Museum of Scotland and the refurbished Empire Theatre.

The developments, especially of the theatre, which are expected to be ready for the Edinburgh International Festival in 1994, will bring more festival events to the neglected south of the city and counter the dominance of the west.

Timothy Clifford, director of the National Galleries of Scotland, also wants a new national gallery of Scottish art next to Holyrood Palace half-a-mile from the Empire. Yesterday he said that he hoped city planners would offer the Holyrood site when he meets them in two weeks. The planning department would not comment.

Details of the new £32 million museum next to the Royal Scottish Museum in Chambers Street have just been announced. Gordon Hanson and Alan Forsyth, its architects, want the theatre and the museums linked by a shaded pedestrian walkway, and Chambers Street would be paved and lined with trees. Car parking would be banned.

The surrounding university buildings would be cleaned, especially Old College, the university's headquarters at the other end of the street, which is one of the finest buildings designed by Robert Adam, the Georgian architect. The building will be comple-



mented by the Sheriff Court being built opposite the museum site.

The idea of turning the area into a cultural showcase has the support of the Old Town Renewal Trust. The trust is consulting owners of property on South Bridge, which runs across the end of Chambers Street and joins Nicholson Street, where the Empire is being transformed. Mark Lazarowicz, Edinburgh district council's leader, supports the concept.

Patricia Brindle, project executive of the trust, set up by the local authority six years ago, said: "We believe that the owners will see the sense of investing in the future of these buildings, which mostly are fine old stone facades in need of cleaning only."

A year ago, a furore arose about the museum proposal when the Prince of Wales withdrew as patron because he disagreed with the method of

choosing the architects. The detailed designs of the new building now show a facade in traditional Edinburgh sandstone with a landmark tower to complement the medieval castle to the west.

The new museum will have its own entrance. A gallery restaurant at its top level will give unrivalled views of the city looking north across the Georgian New Town area of Edinburgh. Work will begin next year and is due to be completed by 1998, financed mostly by the Scottish Office.

The Empire Theatre will add a new dimension to the international festival, says Brian McMaster, who is in the first week of his first festival as director. It will give Edinburgh the biggest stage in Scotland with an auditorium for 2,000, to host the largest touring opera, ballet, musical and drama productions all year, but reserved for six weeks for festival use. Lord Younger

of Prestwick, chairman of the Empire Theatre Trust and a former Secretary of State for Scotland, said the theatre offered an opportunity to upgrade an area in danger of becoming derelict but which had had a dignified past.

The theatre would change its name to the Edinburgh Festival Theatre to "break ties with the old and signify a new start". Of the £20 million costs, £4.5 million was coming from a public appeal that had already raised £2.4 million, he said.

Mark Jones, the director of the National Museums of Scotland, who took up his post in January, said he would be more closely associated with the festival, and especially with the theatre. As well as providing a new landmark drawing visitors to the south side, the museum would programme its exhibitions to be appropriate with the festival season.

"The Empire project represents a new start in the life of the city which we will be part of," he said.

The inclusion of the proposed new gallery would make a triptych of cultural developments in the neighbourhood. There are plans for a £16 million ecological exhibition called Younger's Universe on a former brewery site next to Holyrood Palace. A recent management consultancy report into the feasibility of the new gallery said that, of seven sites suggested, the best two were in Glasgow, but the Holyrood site should be considered.

Mr Clifford said: "I can't think of a better place for these great works of Scottish art than next to Mary Queen of Scots' palace, and the complement of a theatre and a museum so nearby makes it ideal."

Festival reports
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Jailbreak prisoner to return

ONE of the few men to escape from the notorious Folsom Jail in the United States has agreed to return to complete his 25-year to life sentence.

Stephen Leslie Wilson, 47, who regularly featured in America's most wanted list after his escape in August 1984, did not contest his extradition back to the US at Bow Street magistrates' court yesterday. He was committed in custody to await the home secretary's order for extradition charged with having been convicted of murder by the California Supreme Court on November 10, 1982.

To escape, he hid in a van that collected furniture made by prisoners in the high-security jail but he was arrested in Holland Park, west London, in April this year. He had hidden in Florida and Australia. The FBI followed him to London from Queensland last year.

Wilson shot dead Bill Thornburg, his father-in-law in Lone Pine, Sierra Nevada, California, in 1979 and then buried his body. He says he acted under extreme provocation and self-defence.

Wilson had been married to Cally. Mr Thornburg's daughter, but the two had separated, Wilson says he had gone to Mr Thornburg's home to take Cally because he feared for her welfare. There was an argument and Mr Thornburg pulled out a handgun. Wilson struggled to take it from Mr Thornburg and shot him.

Wilson says he did not receive a fair trial and was badly advised by his lawyer to plead guilty. He says he was told that, if he did not and he was found guilty, a death penalty would be sought.

SIMPSON'S NEW EXPANDED MEN'S CASUALWEAR DEPARTMENT NOW STRETCHES ALL THE WAY TO THE CONTINENT.

Nautica, J.O.E., Jézéquel, Valentino. Are these the kind of names you expect to hear banded about at Simpson? Yes is the answer, because in our new Men's Casualwear Department on the second floor, there are now more international designer names than ever before.

Of course, the very highest standards of tailoring demanded from our traditional English designers still apply. So while a lot of these names sound rather foreign, they're all very much at home at Simpson Piccadilly.



DAKS Simpson
071-754 2002 PICCADILLY

Opposition to Maastricht grows

French opinion poll alarms Socialists

FROM SEAN MAC CARTHAIGH IN PARIS

FRANCE'S ruling Socialist party lurched from trepidation to noisier panic yesterday after yet another opinion poll pointed to growing opposition to the Maastricht treaty. *L'Evenement du Jeudi* magazine disclosed that a further swing of just 3 per cent could see the French reject European union in the referendum on September 20.

Of those who expressed a firm opinion, 53 per cent said they would vote for Maastricht, 47 per cent against. Two in five people questioned said they either would not vote or did not know which side to back. Some analysts believe the remaining "don't knows" are more likely to be swayed by an anti-Maastricht campaign playing on deep-rooted national fears.

Pierre Bérégovoy, the prime minister, responded to the poll first by claiming that he was sure of victory anyway, then by saying that if he lost it would be "the end for the construction of Europe". Rejecting the arguments of those who call for a "no" vote and for the treaty to be renegotiated, M

Bérégovoy said "there would be no second chance".

The Socialists' pro-Maastricht campaign strategy involves pounding home a series of simple messages and modern images rather than a detailed treatment of the document. With the word "Europe" systematically used to replace the European Community, billboards throughout France show caricatures of Hitler and announce that a united Europe means no more war.

A recent survey showed that 70 per cent of French people believed themselves to be in the top 10 per cent intelligence bracket. In a country that prides itself on its intellectualism, such clear condescension could now be backfiring on the government.

Meanwhile, half of the neo-Gaullist RPR party, the Communists, some independent left-wing groups and one or two disaffected members of the Socialist Party have provided grist for France's intellectual mill. Charles Pasqua, the former RPR interior minister, has argued that the

treaty is incoherent. Georges Marchais, leader of the Communist Party, insists that unemployment will rise under a unified Europe, and Jean-Pierre Chevènement, who resigned as defence minister during the Gulf war but remained inside the Socialist party, said that Maastricht is too "skimpy" because it ignores future developments in Eastern Europe.

For his part, Jean-Marie Le Pen, leader of the far-right National Front, describes all supporters of the treaty as "federalists" and claimed this week that "Maastricht means foreigners first and foremost, foreigners with the right to vote in France".

Meanwhile, business people, who by and large back a "yes" vote, suffered another attack of the jitters yesterday. Previous polls have meant a lack of dealer confidence at the Paris Bourse. Last weekend Jacques Calvet, head of Peugeot cars, announced that he would vote "no", but insisted that he was "pro-Europe" and wanted a renegotiated text.



Pin-down tactics: a policeman struggling with demonstrators in Eberswalde, near Berlin, during a protest march in memory of an African beaten to death by right-wing youths 20 months ago. There have been a number of racial attacks against "foreigners" since the collapse of the Berlin Wall two years ago

NEWS IN BRIEF

Spanish crash bus 'going too fast'

Madrid: Human error was responsible for the bus crash that killed 45 people and injured 11 on Wednesday night at Torreblanca, 25 miles north of Castellón on the coast of eastern Spain (Edward Owen writes).

Francisco Granados, the regional government delegate, told Spanish national radio that the tachograph removed from the wreckage of the coach, which was en route from Barcelona to the Expo '92 world fair in Seville, was travelling at 65mph around a sharp curve on the A7 motorway where speed restrictions of 25mph were clearly signed. Yesterday Rafael Casado, 45, the driver, was too ill in hospital to explain what had happened to the new coach.

The coach, from Cornellà, near Barcelona, took the curving slip road to Torreblanca and somersaulted on to its roof as it plunged down an embankment.

Semtex haul

Prague: Four armed men trying to sell 220lb of Semtex explosive for about £53,000 have been detained in Pardubice, a Prague newspaper reported. According to recent reports, Semtex is still being produced in the city for industrial use but is now said to include metal additives, making its detection easier. The deputy prosecutor said the men were "private entrepreneurs". (AP)

Post attacked

Moscow: Seven Russian soldiers stationed in the Transnistria region of eastern Moldova as part of a joint peacekeeping force were injured when their post near Dubossary was shelled for several hours. Tass said. (AFP)

Strike ends

Warsaw: A month's strike by 40,000 workers at Poland's sole copper producer ended without the workers getting the pay rises they had demanded, but other strikes, called by six trade unions, continued. (Reuters)

Prison protests

Paris: Riot police intervened for the second day in succession to quell prisoners' protests at the Baumettes jail in Marseille over reduced exercise periods and visits due to a strike by warders which is affecting two-thirds of France's prisons. (Reuters)

Night fireball

Amsterdam: A fireball blazed through the night sky over the northern Netherlands, causing an explosion that rattled windows. Hein Haak, of the Dutch meteorological service, said: "We haven't a clue what it was." (Reuters)

50 killed in Kirghizia earthquake

FROM REUTERS IN MOSCOW

UP TO 50 people are known to have been killed in Wednesday's earthquake near Kirghizia's border with China. Rescue workers have not yet reached the epicentre of the tremors, Itar-Tass said yesterday.

The region was hit by a total of 186 tremors, reaching up to ten points on the Richter scale at the epicentre—a mountain range inhabited by isolated farming communities. Several settlements were destroyed completely by rockfalls. Roads and telephone lines were also destroyed, making it impossible for officials to assess the full scale of damage and loss of life in the area.

Askar Akayev, the president of Kirghizia, has flown to the scene of the earthquake at the head of an emergency commission. The Kazakh state news agency said the tremors also shook Alma-Ata, capital of Kazakhstan, but caused no serious damage. It said the epicentre was 200 miles south-west of Alma-Ata, on the border between Kirghizia and China.

"The earthquake was so powerful that in the epicentre the earth sank to a depth of 9ft to 12ft," the Russian state committee for emergencies announced in a special report.

Refugees survive on German rubbish

FROM IAN MURRAY IN BONN

Refugees and asylum-seekers from places such as Sri Lanka, Ghana and Bosnia have good job prospects in Germany, sorting rubbish. People who have fled poverty and hunger in their countries, where many can survive only by raking through dustbins, are employed to do just that in one of the world's most affluent nations.

The reason is that new laws, introduced this year to appease the militant environmental lobby, oblige manufacturers to recycle packaging and to provide their own system for collection. Town halls are having to employ a whole new category of "Müllologen" ("rubbishologists") to advise on the best way of collecting and treating waste.

Big bright yellow bins supplied to most households are only for items such as milk cartons, yoghurt pots and soap packages marked with a little green arrow that shows they are manufactured by a company subscribing to the private scheme for collecting reusable waste. They are emptied once a month. The rest of the rubbish, properly sealed and packaged, should go into black bins that are emptied each week.

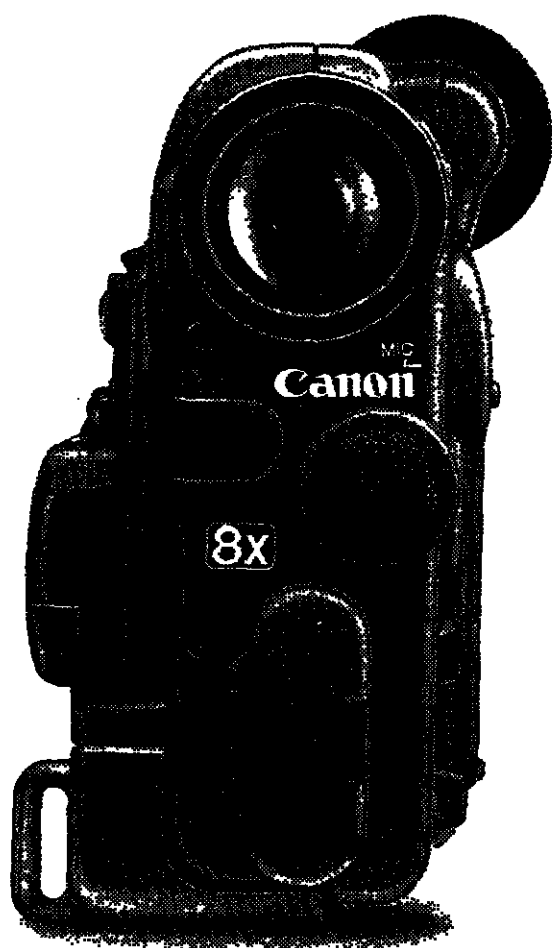
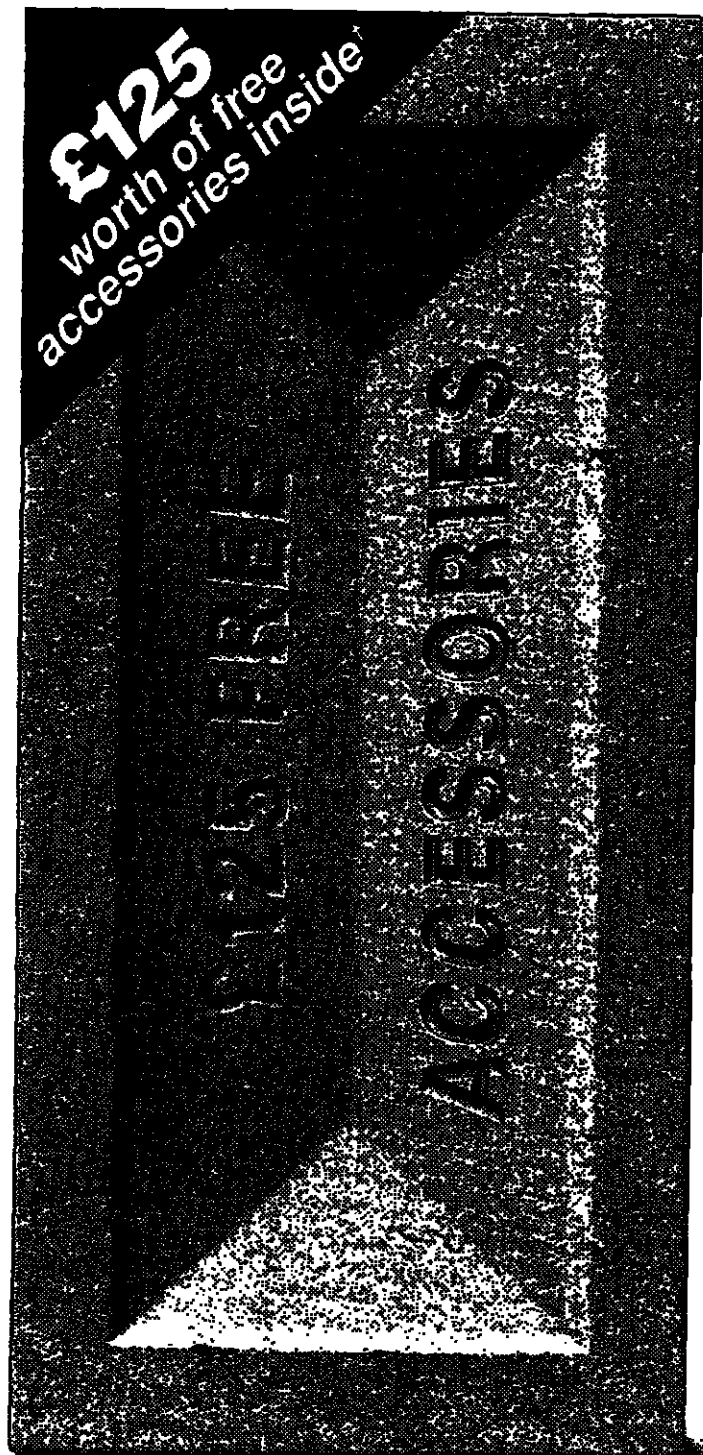
Glass has to be carried to the nearest bottle bank between 7am and 7pm (Sundays and holidays ex-

cluded) and pushed through the rubber anti-wasp door into the large cream container for the appropriate colour of glass. Window glass and broken lead crystal must not be dumped, however, because they have a different melting point from that of bottles and will not recycle. There are also a few collection points for old newspapers, but they must not be used for cardboard.

The trouble is that, despite their reputation for discipline, not all Germans put the right rubbish in the right container. Some even throw dead cats or outmoded vacuum cleaners into them. Moreover, yoghurt pots and their lids are made of different materials and have to be recycled by totally different processes. In consequence, all the contents of the big yellow bins have to be hand-sorted.

The conveyor belts at sorting depots are unpleasant places. Milk cartons may have little green arrows outside to show they are environmentally friendly, but, with month-old vestiges of their original contents inside, they stink. Refugees and asylum-seekers, with little chance of finding work anywhere else, are being paid DM16.32 (£5.80) an hour for a job that few Germans want to do.

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مركز الإعلام

Relief agencies see flaws in Serb offer to release detainees

By MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

INTERNATIONAL relief agencies are denouncing as crude blackmail an offer by the Bosnian Serbs to free all those they hold in detention camps as long as outside relief bodies assume the responsibility for them.

Officials working for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees have repeatedly insisted they will not be an instrument to help the Serbs' "ethnic cleansing". But they say the latest offer has put them in a dilemma: Western public opinion wants the camps closed as quickly as possible, and the appalling conditions in many camps could lead to more deaths of the detainees.

The International Committee of the Red Cross, which so far has inspected more than 11,000 prisoners a day, is pressing for their release. But it says relief agencies would be overwhelmed if they had to assume immediate responsibility for about 170,000 extra refugees, the total estimated by

American intelligence to be detained in the camps, most of which are Serb-run.

About 200 Bosnian families a day are being forced into exile, often after intimidation and the threat of atrocities. Officials say that many prisoners might be safer at the moment in the camps than outside, where they would be victims of ethnic cleansing.

"Unfortunately, our efforts right now look like we may not be able to bring ethnic cleansing to a halt," said Peter Kessler, a spokesman for the UN refugee office. "And if terror tactics continue, we could see hundreds of thousands of people fleeing Bosnia in weeks ahead."

The Red Cross confirmed that negotiations were going on with all parties in Bosnia to free detainees, including those held by Croat and Muslim groups. Most of the fleeing Bosnians, overwhelmingly Muslims, have crossed into Croatia and Slovenia, both of which have said they cannot accept any more. But up to the end of last month there were, according to figures compiled by the Foreign Office, some 373,400 who had fled elsewhere, overwhelmingly to Western Europe. The largest number have gone to Germany, which has accepted an estimated 200,000.

Britain's Nato partners yesterday announced that they will also send troops to Bosnia to help protect UN relief convoys. Italy, currently president of the Western European Union, is to send up to 1,500 and believes an arms embargo is vital, according to Salvo Ando, the defence minister. The troops could be used to patrol borders or escort the convoys, he said.

France, which already has 2,700 troops with the UN peacekeeping forces there, has said it is prepared to send 1,100 more. Belgium is likely to react favourably to any request, the foreign ministry said, after polls showing overwhelming public support for such a dispatch.

Sarajevo dilemma, page 1
Peter Millar, page 10
Letters, page 11



Combat rations: Serbian soldiers sharing a watermelon yesterday in a suburb of Vlasenica, about 40 miles northeast of Sarajevo, capital of Bosnia-Herzegovina. Sporadic fighting was reported in the city, mostly involving heavy machineguns and automatic weapons

Insults mark grim night trek to safety

FROM ANDREJ GUSTINIC IN THE BOSNIAN MOUNTAINS

WITH only the moon and stars to light their way, the Muslims trudged through pools of blood and over chunks of human flesh as a battle raged nearby in the mountains of central Bosnia.

The stream of 1,500 people dragged itself down the road in silence. Babies and small children were quiet as though aware of the Serb fighters only 200 yards away. The march to Travnik was the final stretch of a 16-hour odyssey for the Muslims of Sanski Most, driven out of their homes in the Serbian "ethnic cleansing" campaign.

The only sound apart from the wheezing of the old and the clumping of peasant shoes was from rockets which lit up the sky when they hit their targets in the surrounding hills and the thunder of heavy machinegun fire.

"We don't know where we are going," said a young man called Ferudin, who only minutes ago had been confident and comforting to the others. "We could be walking into a village under fire." He told a group of people: "If you don't put out those cigarettes they will see you and kill you." Quietly he added: "We could be on the wrong road. I can't let my people perish in these hills." Our destination after being expelled on foot into no-

man's-land by Serb fighters was the town of Travnik.

But no one knew the way or how far there was to go. Earlier two other journalists and I had come upon the convoy of 55 cars, five buses and several trucks under Serb guard about half a mile southeast of Prijedor, near the notorious Omarska detention camp.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has refused to co-operate with Serbian ethnic cleansing, and allow Muslims to be driven out into UN-patrolled zones in Croatia to the north. But this convoy showed that Serb militias have simply changed the route and are shipping the Muslims southwards to Travnik through rugged country. Since the war began, more than 25,000 people have been brought to Travnik along this route and the town is filled with refugees.

Truckloads of heavily armed Serb irregulars passed by and grunted insults. Swagging youths with rifles and bandoliers criss-crossed their chests, clustered in groups. "We'll butcher you," they shouted at the Muslims, making horizontal swipes with their hands to indicate killing. The convoy moved again. The next stop was the Serbian front line.

Kosovo dreads being next ethnic battleground

By ROGER BOYES

The best boulevard cafes in Zagreb are run by Albanians with heavy mustaches. Making cream cakes may have been an Austrian tradition — the natural preserve one might have thought of the Habsburg-dominated Croats — but nowadays it is the Albanians who dish up the vanilla and brew the strongest coffee.

The Albanians of Kosovo are increasingly finding shelter in Croatia: they manage jewellery shops and orchestrate the black market. Four-fifths of Pristina University professors are said to have been educated in Zagreb.

This strange link between the north and the south of former Yugoslavia is a pointer to the next stage of the Balkan war. Belgrade's relentless pursuit of a Greater Serbia has helped to forge an anti-Serbian coalition out of

culturally disparate republics and regions. The assumption in Zagreb is that the Bosnian war will wind down because Serbia has achieved what it wants in captured territory. The Albanians of Kosovo, close to boiling point, may provide the next spark.

Kosovo is regarded as the "cradle of Serbia", a place of Serbian martyrdom (the battle of 1389), and therefore the reason for the resurrection of Greater Serbia. In 1987, Slobodan Milosevic, the Serbian leader, began his nationalist crusade there, and the Croats promptly took in many Albanian refugees.

About 90 per cent of the two million residents of Kosovo are ethnic Albanians, yet they are treated in much the same way as the Nazis treated people classed as *Untermenschen*; there has been a five-year purge of



Albanian teachers, professors, doctors and managers. The Serbian idea is to crush any emerging Albanian middle class. The ethnic Alban-

ians have set up an underground society — secret schools and printing works — that is steered by the Albanian diaspora in the West, by Tirana and by Albanians resident in Croatia.

Albanians dread the prospect of a Kosovo uprising, for the result will surely be killings worse than any seen in Bosnia. The Croats, especially the hard young strategists of the nationalist HOS, see the matter rather differently. First, they believe there should be a broad anti-Serbian axis that links Croats, Slovenes, Albanians, Bosnian Muslims and perhaps Macedonians. Second, it is said in Zagreb, the Serbs are heading for "imperial overstretch".

The Serbs have formidable weaponry inherited from the Yugoslav army, but their

manpower has its limits. If an international peace settlement is reached, giving some kind of legitimacy to Serbian acquisition, Belgrade will have to keep order in great swaths of hostile territory in Bosnia and eastern and central Croatia. Add to that an uprising in Kosovo and the army will be dangerously thin on the ground. The perfect moment, say the rather cynical military advisers attached to Dobroslav Paraga's black-shirted HOS party, to launch a counter-attack in the Slavonia cornfields and grab back the lost eastern territories.

Wishful thinking or mere wargaming? Perhaps. There is little doubt that the wars of former Yugoslavia are as intimately linked as a suit of chainmail. Unravel one iron thread and the rest come apart. Every new battle opens new opportunities elsewhere.

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Republican evangelists hope the voters' possess a sense of sin



Goldwater: echoes of 1964 worry party

BOUNCE has become the new vogue word in the American political vocabulary. It means the degree of uplift the two parties can expect to get out of the week of nationwide publicity their successive conventions give them.

The Democrats got a lot of "bounce" out of their unity festival in New York. The Republicans started out this week hoping that the same thing would happen to them in Houston. Not all of them are any longer quite so sanguine, although the loyalists insist that the popular reaction to the president's speech last night can still turn the whole thing around.

The news so far from the polling organisations has been, at best, mixed. The ABC News/Washington Post latest survey, for which polling went on until Tuesday night, shows

President Bush's party risks being taken over by the right as the opinion polls continue to send mixed signals, writes Anthony Howard in Houston

the gap between the two candidates just as wide as ever, with President Bush still trailing Governor Bill Clinton by 25 points. Another national poll, conducted by one of the two Houston newspapers, presents a rather different picture. It shows the president as having already whittled down the margin between him and his challenger to 12 points — six if only the last day's polling on Tuesday is taken into account.

This has, in fact, been a rather depressed convention, perhaps partly because even the true believers do not feel

they have much to celebrate in terms of the administration's record. For others, with longer memories, the echoes of Barry Goldwater and the Cow Palace at San Francisco in 1964 are altogether too obvious for comfort. The only thing lacking has been a Nelson Rockefeller ready to fight the right.

When Mr Clinton declared on television that "the Republican Party has been taken over by right-wing extremists", the moderates within the party must have found it hard to dissent. Their own experience in their home districts, where they have been outma-

nœuvred by the militant right working through the fundamentalist churches tells them the same thing.

The impression of a party having fallen victim to a takeover bid has, if anything, been reinforced by the number of cutaway shots the networks have given in their limited convention coverage to some of the more notorious *revanchiste* populist leaders — figures such as the Rev Jerry Falwell, the television evangelist, or Phyllis Schlafly, one of the leaders of the Right to Life movement. It is hardly a tactic of which the convention organisers can complain, as they themselves have given a prominent role on the podium to men such as the Rev Pat Robertson, the Christian conservative who stood against Mr Bush back in 1988.

Moderate Republicans have

expressed themselves as being unhappy also with the narrow nature of the prayers and invocations with which the convention always opens its proceedings. There is, of course, a large army of militant Christians within the United States — the figure is sometimes put as high as 70 million — and Mr Clinton with his talk of "a new covenant" is also making his bid to appeal to them. But he has so far done so without introducing the note of negativity that induced Pat Robertson, for example, to refer to the Democrats as "carriers of a plague" or their representatives in Congress as "the criminal class".

It is language that goes a good deal beyond even that employed by Vice-President Spiro Agnew, before he was forced to resign when facing

criminal charges, in the days when the Nixon administration also trained its guns on "the liberal, cultural elite".

What the polls presumably will disclose in the next few days is whether the voters themselves also perceive a tyranny of sin and the need of an iron rod with which to break it. Here the Republicans may be enjoying one lucky break. Strategists within the party are rejoicing privately over the much publicised allegations in the Woody Allen-Mia Farrow case. It certainly promises to keep the argument about where lax standards can lead a nation nicely on the boil.

They may well prove to have had some success with that tactic this week. A CBS poll suggests that there is already some distinct erosion in the Democratic candidate's stand-

ing with the voters. His positive ratings have fallen while his negative ones have risen: the president, before his speech last night, had simply remained static.

But there is still one substantial obstacle in the Republicans' path. If they want to get true bounce, they will need to play the ball, and not the man. Here in Houston, there was a marked reluctance to talk about the clear dominant issue of the coming campaign, the state of the economy. Unless the administration can come up with some coherent policies to put that right, the voters may well share Mr Clinton's assessment that everything the Republicans have said and done this week has been designed "to distract attention from the fact that they have the worst economic record in 50 years".

Divided and dispirited party awaits salvation

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN HOUSTON

THE Republican Party was banking on President Bush to deliver the speech of his life last night to keep alive its hopes of a fourth consecutive White House victory.

It was depending on a man who admits he is no orator to lift a mediocre convention week to a finale that would galvanise his divided and dispirited troops for what he called "the fight of our life" over the next 74 days. It would be "the most closely listened to acceptance speech in our lifetime," suggested *The Wall Street Journal*.

Mr Bush, formally renominated when the Texas delegation cast its vote, was continuing to work on the speech right up to the last moment, and its contents were the most closely guarded secret in America, but the overwhelming political imperative was to convince America that he had a domestic and eco-

nomics agenda that merited a second term.

The Republicans had hoped to leave Houston with a "bounce" that would cut Bill Clinton's lead to single digits, but conflicting polls yesterday suggested that the first two days, distinguished by relentless invective against Mr Clinton, his wife and the Democrat-controlled Congress, may not have achieved their desired effect. Indeed, the negative tone and lack of a positive Republican message have distressed many Republican moderates.

On Wednesday, having thoroughly blackened Mr Clinton's character, the convention turned to the task of extolling Mr Bush's, the highlight being a rare First Lady's speech in which the popular Barbara Bush lauded her husband as "the strongest, the most decent, the most caring, the wisest, and yes, the healthiest man I know".

In a piece of pure political theatre that had the Astrodome roaring with delight, Mrs Bush was then joined on the podium by her five children, their spouses and her 12 grandchildren. After George P. Bush, the eldest grandchild, told the convention Mr Bush was "the greatest man I have ever known", the president sent the delegates wild by striding unexpectedly onto the stage to be hugged by all the children.

Traditionally, the nominee avoids the convention hall until the night of his acceptance speech, but Mr Clinton broke that custom in New York last month and Mr Bush's appearance capped the Arkansas governor's.

On a night dedicated to the theme of family, the Republicans strove to cast the Bushes as guardians of traditional values and the Democrats as their enemy. Women speakers predominated and Hillary Clinton was again a prime target.

The snowy-haired, grandmaternal Mrs Bush was an obvious contrast to Mrs Clinton, a career-minded lawyer, but a subtler contrast was presented by Marilyn Quayle, also a lawyer but one who had given up her career for her family. Mrs Quayle declared that not all her generation "demonstrated, dropped out, took drugs, joined in the sexual revolution or dodged the draft... Not everyone believed that the family was so oppressive that women could only thrive apart from it."

The family values theme was clearly aimed at socially conservative blue-collar "Reagan Democrats", but privately delegates concede that the election will be decided by the state of the economy.

Leading article, page 11



Family man: President Bush, surrounded by family members on the rostrum, congratulating his wife, Barbara, after her address to the Republican convention

CONVENTION NOTEBOOK by Martin Fletcher

Music provides sour note on family values

REPORTS of the photographs of the Duchess of York, topless, embracing John Bryan, the Texan billionaire, reached Houston on Wednesday just as the Republicans embarked on night-long homage to the "family values" they claim to monopolise. As it happened, nobody had the nerve to attack the royal family for setting a poor example, but Woody Allen was fair game.

The actor and film director had shown himself to be a "good Democrat". William Kristol, the vice-president's chief of staff, remarked to reporters. One of the hand-made signs on the convention floor, which were being produced by a team of Republican operatives, declared: "Woody Allen is Bill Clinton's family values adviser."

But what was the music that heralded President Bush's surprise late-night appearance on the podium with his 17 children and grandchildren? It was "The Best of Times" from *La Cage aux Folles* — a musical about a homosexual couple.

One of the big draws on the convention floor was the retired Marine lieutenant colonel, Oliver North. Seated amid the Virginia delegation, Mr North said he was testing the "length and breadth of support" for a 1994 Senate bid.

Needless to say, the Texan delegation had place of honour this week, right beneath the podium. Arkansas was up

in the gods, half the delegation with an obstructed view, the other half needing binoculars.

It has been open season on Bill Clinton this week. Alan Simpson, the Wyoming senator, talked of "a man [Mr Bush] who quit school to fight for his country and one who went to school to avoid fighting for it". Patrick Buchanan asserted that "when Bill Clinton's turn came in Vietnam, he sat up in a dormitory in Oxford, England, and figured out how to avoid the draft" (A poor knee spared Mr Buchanan).

On Wednesday night, it was Marilyn Quayle's turn. Not all baby boomers "dropped out, took drugs, joined in the sexual revolution or dodged the draft," she said. Indeed, not, but it seems no time at all since the media were baying for Dan Quayle's blood after he admitted "phone calls were made" to secure him a safe slot in Indiana's national guard.

Plot of Woody Allen family drama takes an X-rated turn

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

WOODY Allen has passed a lie-detector test to try to disprove anticipated allegations of child abuse in his custody battle with Mia Farrow, his companion of 12 years, it was disclosed last night.

The test was taken on the advice of his lawyers. The results are not admissible in criminal proceedings, but may be used by the police to determine how vigorously they should pursue the allegations.

While accusations and denials of child abuse, pornography, blackmail fly back and forth between the two camps, the saga clearly merits an X-rating, revealing everything you ever wanted to know about the horrors of a failed love affair but were afraid to ask.

Alan Dershowitz, the actress's lawyer, yesterday appeared to confirm rumours that the split between the couple was precipitated last January when she found nude

pictures of her adopted daughter, Soon-Yi Previn, in Mr Allen's apartment. Mr Allen, 57, has publicly acknowledged having an affair with Soon-Yi, who was adopted by Miss Farrow during her marriage to André Previn, the conductor, and whose age is officially 21 but could be 17.

Miss Farrow held a tearful family meeting with her children after learning her adopted daughter was sleeping with Mr Allen and asked the daughter to choose between the family and Mr Allen, the *New York Post* reported yesterday. The daughter chose the film director, the paper said.

Police in Connecticut and New York are investigating charges that Mr Allen sexually abused his adopted daughter aged seven, one of the three children he shares with Miss Farrow. Mr Allen has denied the allegations, which he has described as "an unconscionable and grossly damaging manipulation of innocent children for vindictive and

self-serving ends", and has suggested that Miss Farrow is "unfit" as a mother. On Tuesday, Mr Allen accused Miss Farrow and her lawyers of trying to extort \$3.5 million from him in return for suppressing the allegations of abuse.

Miss Farrow had been expected to star opposite Allen in his next film, *Manhattan Murder Mystery*. The actress Diane Keaton, according to reports, is the most likely candidate to take her place as the leading actress.

As the controversy swirled on, Mr Allen's latest film, *Husbands and Wives*, was shown for the first time in New York to an audience stunned by the parallels of the film's plot and the film maker's own personal problems. Mr Allen plays Gabe Roth, a college professor on the verge of breaking up with his wife, Judy, played by Miss Farrow. Mr Allen's character becomes involved with a college student aged 20.

Sultan tops the world's rich parade

The Sultan of Brunei, worth \$37 billion (£19.2 billion), is the richest man in the world, while the Queen, with \$11.7 billion, is the richest woman, *Fortune* magazine said.

Two billionaires on the magazine's list are aged less than ten. Anita Roussel, 7, daughter of the late Christina Onassis and sole heiress to the Onassis shipping fortune, is worth \$1.5 billion. Germany's Prince Albert von Thurn und Taxis, 9, has \$1 billion.

Second on *Fortune's* list was the family of Sam Walton, founder of the Wal-Mart US retail chain, with a combined net worth of \$24 billion. Third was Takichiro Mori, 88, of Japan, who made his money in property, worth \$14 billion. The Queen was sixth on the overall list, just above King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, with \$10 billion.

Lawyers for Erich Honecker said they might call the German chancellor, Helmut Kohl, and the former Soviet president, Mikhail Gorbachev, to testify when the former East German leader goes on trial for manslaughter over Berlin Wall shootings. The defence might also ask former chancellors Willy Brandt and Helmut Schmidt to appear.

Pascal Lissouba, a former Marxist who served as prime minister in the 1960s, won Congo's first democratic presidential election, the government announced. His rival, Bernard Kolélas, alleged widespread vote-rigging.

A Texas cancer researcher has sued the actor Sean Connery, his agents and the makers of the film *Medicine Man* for \$100 million, claiming that the film was based on the doctor's life story.

President Mobutu of Zaire signed an order naming his arch-rival, the opposition leader Etienne Tshisekedi, as prime minister, Zairean television said.

King Ping bowled over

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN MIAMI



Pindling: accepted his defeat with good grace

Bahamians yesterday celebrated "deliverance" from Sir Lynden Pindling, the prime minister of their Caribbean nation for 25 years and the Commonwealth's longest-serving elected leader.

The reign of "King Ping", as Bahamians call him, was ended by Hubert Ingraham, his renegade one-time protégé, whom he had dubbed "Rude Boy" during a sometimes bitter election campaign. Mr Ingraham, 45, a respected lawyer and former cabinet minister, mounted an effective campaign under the slogan "deliverance" — from government corruption, incompetence and "squander-mania". He successfully exploited a series of scandals involving missing funds from government-run projects and a general downturn in the economy to urge an end of rule by Sir

Bahamians took to the streets waving victory signs, blowing car horns and partying to reggae and calypso music. "It's wonderful! Wonderful! Deliverance after all these years," Patricia Mitchell said.

Mr Ingraham urged his supporters not to gloat over victory. "This is not the time for retribution... This is the time to bring our nation together," he said.

Sir Lynden was gracious in defeat, congratulating his opponent on a "great victory". He told local radio: "The people of this great little democracy have spoken in a most dignified and elegant manner. And the voice of the people is the voice of God." But, referring to popular demands for change, he added: "I only hope [Mr Ingraham] will be able to contain this tiger."

If not, we'll be in for a rough time."

Sir Lynden is all the Bahamas has known since independence from Britain in 1973. When he took office for the first time in 1967, his was the first government to reflect the black majority in the population of 250,000. That ended years of domination by a white banking elite known as the "Bay Street Boys".

Mr Ingraham was expelled as a finding cabinet minister in 1984 and from the ruling party in 1986 for his outspoken criticism of the prime minister over the drug and corruption allegations then being levelled at members of the government. He won re-election to parliament as an independent in 1987 and joined the Free National Movement in April 1990, becoming its leader two months later.

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UN told to deliver aid for Somalia at gunpoint

By SAM KILEY, AFRICA CORRESPONDENT

UNITED Nations experts have told the UN Security Council that the UN should send large numbers of armed troops to Somalia to protect aid workers and relief food deliveries from bands of marauding looters in all parts of the country.

The team of experts, who delivered their report to the security council this week, have recommended that the UN military presence in the country be significantly expanded from the 500 troops expected to arrive there in the next few weeks.

UN sources in Somalia said yesterday that, although the details of the UN experts' report have not been made public, they will recommend an increase in the military role of the UN to deliver food because there seems to be no other way of doing it, other than "by taking food to the needy at the point of a gun".

Mohamed Sahnoun, the UN's special representative to Somalia, is in favour of a significant UN military presence in Somalia and UN sources said yesterday that at least 5,000 soldiers would be needed to "impose some sanity and make sure that the food being sent to Somalia actually gets through".

Mindful of the potentially negative reaction of some of the warlords whose armies have wrecked the country and reduced it to a state in which—as the UN Children's Fund Somalia spokesman said—a million children were "walking skeletons", the UN experts' report recommended that there be a steady increase in the number of UN troops starting with the already agreed deployment in Mogadishu, the capital, and then expanding into other parts and regional centres in the heart of the country.

"After that the UN team has recommended that troops be deployed in other critical areas, like the port of Kismayu, where food can be brought but at the moment cannot be distributed safely, or at all," a senior UN source said last night. "The report recognises that the Somalis must not feel as if they are being invaded, but at the same time they say

that there seems to be no other way of distributing the food other than under military protection."

Iain MacCleod, of Unicef, said at a press conference in Geneva yesterday that 95 per cent of Somalia's children were suffering from malnutrition. "In some areas, 50 per cent of them are suffering from severe malnutrition (starvation). Those sort of figures are unheard of," Mr MacCleod stated.

At least 1.5 million people are in danger of starvation in Somalia. Eighteen months of civil war have wrecked the country's infrastructure and destroyed the social fabric, and as a result only the armed have access to food. Members of the security council have been accused of responding too slowly to the catastrophe in Somalia but, in an effort to counter the claim, the United States this week is planning to begin a massive airlift to fly 145,000 tons of food to the country.

"The food the US is bringing in is welcome, but they have not made any provision for security," a UN official said. "It is likely that the US airlifts will accelerate the deployment of more UN troops to Somalia. There is simply no other way of doing it, but some of us do not understand why the Americans don't simply come in with their own troops. If that food comes in, then there will still be no way to get around unless there are guards from the UN."

In a separate development, the UN defied south Sudanese rebels and is flying in relief supplies to the beleaguered city of Juba in the south of the country after the Sudanese People's Liberation Army had threatened to destroy aircraft heading for Juba. A UN-marked aircraft carrying 24 tonnes of maize and 16 tonnes of medical supplies, landed at Juba airport and unloading has started, Paul Mitchell, of the World Food Programme said.

Juba ran out of food supplies ten days ago, Mr Mitchell added, and the situation there was "very bad", with more than 300,000 people in the city at risk of starvation.



Foot fault: President Sharma of India, 75, tripping at ceremonies yesterday to mark the birthday of Rajiv Gandhi, the former prime minister assassinated last year. A crowd prayed at Gandhi's memorial in Delhi as his widow Sonia, his children and leading personalities, including the president, paid their respects

De Klerk sidesteps hit squad issue

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN PRETORIA

PRESIDENT de Klerk last night pointedly refused to say that his chief of military intelligence enjoyed his confidence, amid a controversy over the operation of government-backed murder squads in South Africa.

The embattled president, faced with apparent stagnation over constitutional negotiations, an economy being steadily destroyed by the African National Congress's mass action campaign, and persistent violence in the black townships, said that he had involved himself personally in the enquiries into the murder of black activists allegedly by military hit squads.

Asked the question directly at an international press conference here, Mr de Klerk not only avoided saying that Lieutenant General C.P. "Joffe" van der Westhuizen had his confidence, but also declined even to mention his name, saying only that they would handle the matter in the customary way of dealing "with an employee accused of something".

He insisted: "We need evidence and information before we can arraign people... We are not prepared, just on the

basis of rumour, to take steps against people."

General van der Westhuizen's name has been linked with the murders of black activists in the Eastern Cape in 1985 through a military signal which came to public attention in which he suggested the "permanent removal from society" of Matthew Goniwe, an anti-apartheid militant.

There have been other unexplained events which purport to embroil the general further. The latest is the murder on Monday of Andre de Villiers, an Eastern Cape farmer, who was said by the ANC to be giving them evidence of the involvement of a special forces unit known as "the Hammer" in the Goniwe murder.

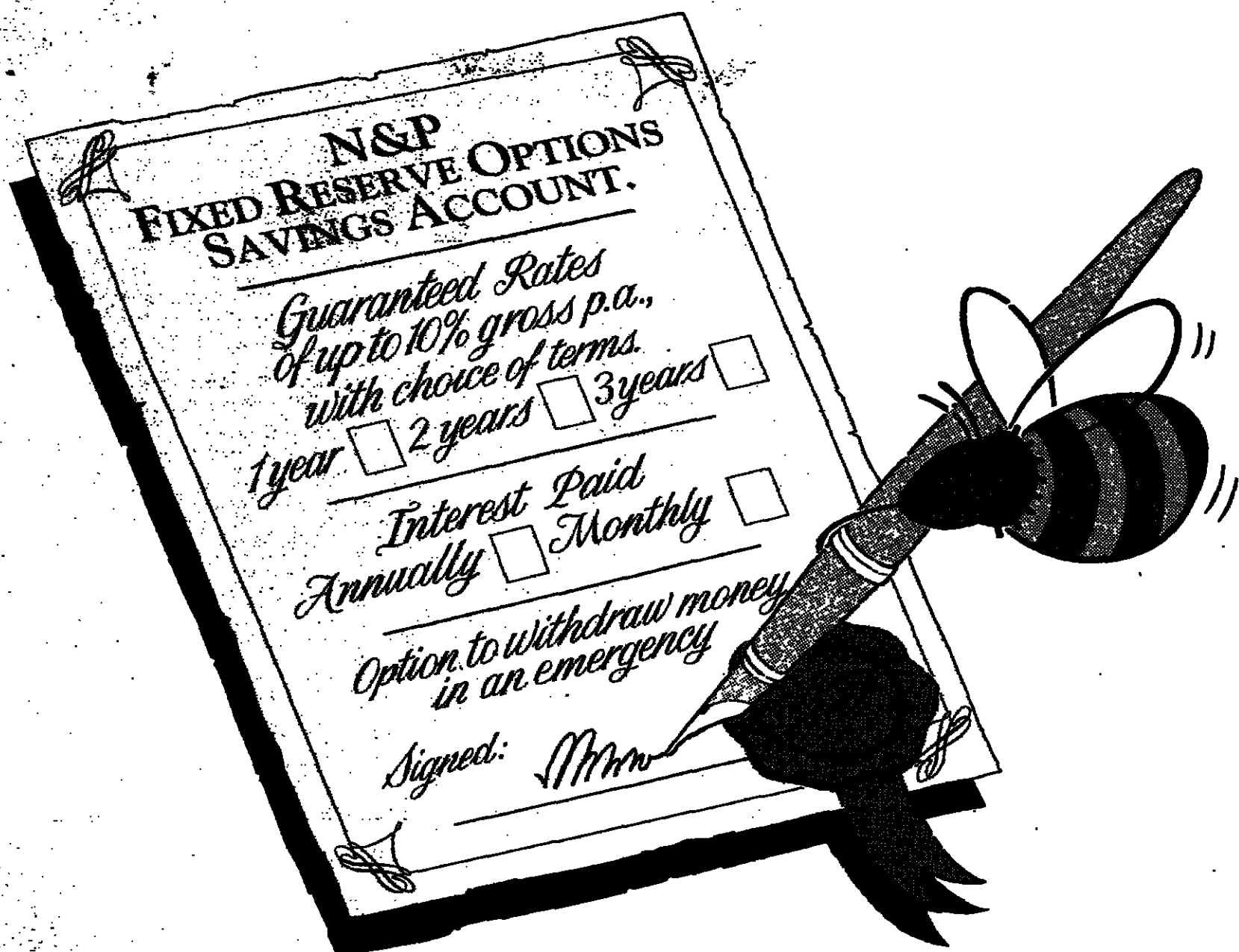
The Hammer unit was the creation of the then Brigadier van der Westhuizen, who was Eastern Cape commander at the time. Mr de Villiers owned a shop which was used by Hammer unit members. Before he was shot by a gang of armed men at his farm, he had passed on to the ANC the names of men who were part of the unit and who were believed to have been connected with the Goniwe shootings.

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Disillusioned city awakes to reality

FROM RICHARD BRESTON IN BEIRUT

When the guns finally fell silent in Beirut two years ago, the city's long-suffering residents believed their troubles were coming to an end.

Although the country was still reeling from the effects of 15 years of continuous fighting the unflappable Beirut spirit looked beyond the ruins of a once great city and saw only the foundations of a future Eldorado.

For instance, it is not by chance that most postcards sold in Beirut today still show a city of night clubs, women in bikinis at the beach and the neat streets and orderly buildings of a prosperous capital that deserved its title of Paris of the Middle East. Turn the card over, however, and it becomes clear that the picture was taken long before the 1975 civil war.

"When I remember how it used to be it still hurts me," said Mounir Samaha, owner of the Mayflower Hotel and the Duke of Wellington Pub, once the main watering hole of British expatriates, where draught beer and steak-and-kidney pie would attract visitors from as far away as Kuwait and Riyadh.

A year ago Mr Samaha, like many other businessmen in Beirut, believed that the future could only be better, but today as he surveys his empty saloon and unoccupied rooms a terrible new truth is beginning to dawn. "It sounds crazy, but things are getting worse rather than better. We used to have eight hours of electricity every day, now we only have three. Hyperinflation means it costs me more to run my hotel, although the rooms go empty because the foreigners have not started to

come back. The reconstruction we were promised has failed to take place: the country is not moving forward."

His concerns, echoed across the capital by Christians and Muslims alike, seem to be confirmed by the continued lack of basic services in the city, where rubbish litters the streets, the telephones do not work, power cuts are continuous and little effort is being made to repair even the most basic parts of the infrastructure.

According to Paul Shalak, head of the Council for Development and Reconstruction, a - quango charged with planning and carrying through the country's rebirth, rebuilding the infrastructure could have begun months ago, were it not for government indolence and bureaucratic incompetence.

His organisation, controlled by the Lebanese-born Saudi billionaire Rafiq Hariri, has seen its plans to convert the shattered city centre area into a Docklands-style financial district run into trouble. His work to demolish wrecked buildings and clear the area is on hold while the claims of 127,000 former landlords and tenants of the properties are assessed for compensation.

The malaise has been compounded by Lebanon's political troubles, highlighted this week by the Christian boycott of Sunday's parliamentary elections. Many Lebanese in and out of government are becoming convinced that their country will begin to rebuild only when a peace settlement is arranged for the entire region and after the last Syrian and Israeli forces have left the country.

Murderers, not martyrs

Joanna Pitman watches Japan confess its crimes

When Emperor Akihito makes his planned visit to China this October, he will tread a path that his father Hirohito perhaps dreamed of treading years ago as ruler of a vast Japanese empire called the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere.

As the first post-war imperial visit to Asia, the trip will be loaded with political innuendo. The government has already signalled that Japan is not yet ready to provide the official apologies for which China and other formerly colonised south-east Asian nations are still waiting. But in the face of the flow of evidence of Japanese war crimes, it will not be able to evade for much longer a clear acknowledgment of responsibility.

As the only country ever to have been atom bombed, Japan has always seen itself as sinned against by the Allies. This view has been central to the war ceremonies of the past few weeks. First, in Hiroshima, a team of fugubrious government officials performed the annual "airing of the pages" ritual. Fifty-nine books, inscribed with the names of the 176,000 victims of the Hiroshima atom bomb, were carried out into the summer sun and diligently flipped through, page by page, under reverential white-gloved fingers, before being replaced in their dusty vault for another year. Last week Japan's television addicts — most of the nation — were fed with blanket coverage of memorial ceremonies for those killed by the Nagasaki atom bomb. And on Saturday, the 47th anniversary of Japan's surrender, they were urged to remember the nation's three million victims of the second world war.

Naturally, every nation should be free to mourn its wartime dead, but the Japanese are still being offered only a carefully calibrated version of events which their government has designed to portray the nation simply as a victim of Allied aggression. But a belated change is now being wrought on this incomplete version of history by a clutch of feisty war veterans. These self-styled war criminals are eager to confess their crimes and cleanse their souls as all good Buddhists should before they die.

To the vexation of the government, these old soldiers are spilling the beans in front of television cameras, on radio and in the press. Some have even begun making pilgrimages to the scenes of their crimes to apologise to the families of their victims. Only last week, 78-year-old Seiji Yoshida was in Seoul, apologising before the world's press for his role in the procurement of Korean girls as sex slaves for Japanese troops. Prostrate before a group of weeping victims, he roundly denounced his government for trying to deny the existence of such mobile brothels, euphemistically named "comfort stations", and for refusing to compensate the victims and their families.

Hiroshi Nagatomi, another guilt-racked septuagenarian, has also been forcing himself through the agonising process of catharsis. He has recently been visiting China to repent his part in the Nanking massacre, the notorious fortnight in December 1937 when Japanese soldiers slaughtered some 200,000 Chinese prisoners of war and civilians, raped 20,000 women and rampaged through the town, looting and torturing at random. During a harrowing four-hour interview, Mr Nagatomi confessed to having felt proud of personally killing more than 200 innocent Chinese, bayoneting some and burning others alive. "I turned into a devil, and only after the war did I become human again and truly suffer in the knowledge of what I had done," he said.

Mr Nagatomi's tale, and those of his fellow sufferers, reveal that most of these men became caught up in a blind obedience to their Emperor, and were unable to recognise the evil of their actions. They were driven, not by some uncontrollable fury, but by a wildly perverted love of their emperor, in whose name all of Japan's wholesale wartime killings took place.

The death of that emperor in 1989 has lifted a taboo on discussion of the darkest chapters of Japanese history and prepared the way for these old soldiers. Given the evident burden of 47 years of guilt, it is hard not to allow that these men were as much the victims of the war as the men, women and children they killed.

Alan Hamilton is saddened, but not surprised, by the latest example of commoner embarrassment

Royal, but not at all regal

One cannot but feel for the Queen. She escapes to the peaceful fastness of Balmoral for her summer break in a year already discoloured by publication of an offensively one-sided account of the marriage of her eldest son and daughter-in-law, only to have her kipper and kedgerie breakfast rudely spoiled by the arrival of yesterday's *Daily Mirror*.

She will, one suspects, have buried her head within the safe pages of her favoured morning reading, *The Sporting Life*, in which the only unclad flesh is that with four legs. She must seriously wonder whether that old virtue, family loyalty, still exists.

Victoria and Albert had not long bought Balmoral when they too were faced with an indiscretion in the family. Their eldest son Berie, later Edward VII, despatched to the Curragh army camp outside Dublin to learn gunnery, enlivened his long and lonely nights by taking an actress to his bed. Albert summoned him home and travelled to his rooms in Cambridge to mete out the severest punishment, but the

Prince Consort caught typhoid and died. The matter, although the talk of the London clubs, never made the newspapers. Times are different now.

As the Duchess of York's so-called "financial adviser" John Bryan, whose advice is apparently not always tendered from within a dark business suit, discovered when he went before a judge on Wednesday in an attempt to stop publication of yet another set of deeply embarrassing photographs of the duchess on holiday, the law of England makes no provision for intrusion of privacy of such a kind.

The law of other countries does. In France, for example, press legislation prevents the media from reporting or photographing the private peccadilloes of any citizen from the president downwards. To some extent, that explains French newspapers' obsession with the dubious doings of the royal

houses of Great Britain and Monaco. The duchess is now on a par with Princess Caroline.

The other half of the explanation is that sexual misbehaviour among their own leaders is no great story to the French; it is more or less expected, and does not excite the same level of prurience as it does in the repressed British, who were almost killing each other in the rush to buy yesterday's *Mirror*. Two other royal incidents this year have undoubtedly stoked the fires of limitation on press behaviour: Andrew Morton's book on the Princess of Wales, and a previous set of holiday snapshots of the duchess lounging by the Mediterranean with another of her holiday partners, Steve Wyatt. It will be argued ever louder that duchess and dustman have equal right to have their personal space protected from the all-seeing proboscis of the telephoto lens.

The argument may have merit, but the duchess is hardly the best case on which to base it. She has done little to enhance the reputation of the royal family, an institution of some value which does not deserve to be wrecked by the antics of those who marry into it. She has indicated that, after her marriage to the Duke of York, she received little guidance or sympathy from the Palace establishment in her new high-profile role. But her errors of behaviour are of a somewhat basic kind.

There were suggestions of vulgarity some months ago when the duchess invited *Hello!* magazine, a Spanish-owned journal which specialises in fawning coverage of the rich and famous, into her home at Sunninghill to shoot an intimate set of family pictures while she and the duke were still together. Rumours that she asked for, and was paid, £250,000, and in-

cluded her mother-in-law's displeasure, served only to fuel the suspicion that she was using her position for her own gain.

Although separated from the duke, she is still married to him. She must know perfectly well that on a beach or at a poolside, she will never be entirely safe from a prying eye intent on making a fast and fat buck. She must realise that, even if she finally divorces, she will remain an object of curiosity for the rest of her life. She can so easily harm and hurt, not only the family and the institution she was more than happy to marry into, and to accept its benefits and rewards, but also, presumably, her husband. The duke can hardly relish the sight of his two young children being entertained by a variety of other men.

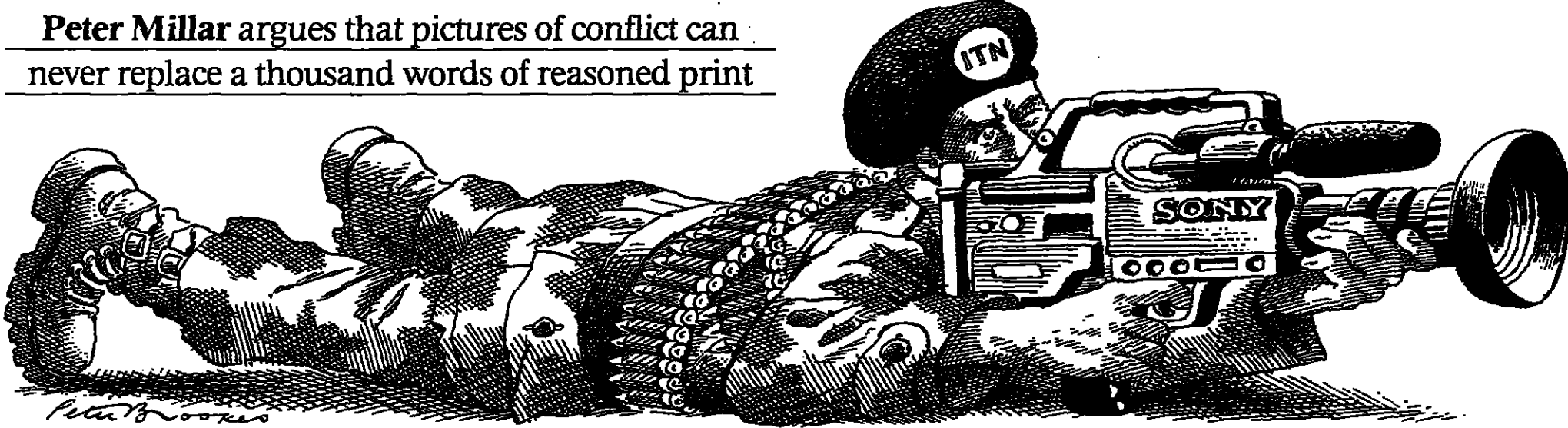
There was a time when princes married only princesses from other royal houses, but that well has run rather dry. Voices are

still raised suggesting that royalty should still marry only its own kind, the only kind which will intuitively understand the peculiarly constricting code of conduct expected. But the idea of the arranged marriage runs against the grain of our time and culture. Nor does the premise hold much water. The present Duchess of Gloucester, for example, the former Biretta van Dams, daughter of a Copenhagen lawyer and a through-and-through commoner, presents an impeccable and untarnished public image, as does the Lord Lieutenant of Yorkshire's daughter, the Duchess of Kent. There are those from outside the charmed circle who can adjust to it. And there are, sadly, those who cannot.

England used to produce a particular breed of woman, as stout of purpose as of their tweeds, who strode the empire from the north-west frontier to the outback and who were the backbone of their families and of the nation. Doubtless they had indiscretions, but they were discreet. They knew, above all, the meaning of loyalty. Where are they now?

Television's superficial war

Peter Millar argues that pictures of conflict can never replace a thousand words of reasoned print



In every modern conflict there is one double agent never brought to book, one often blindly praised for exposing war crimes, while sometimes encouraging the folly that leads to them: the camera.

We poor wordsmiths are trapped by clichés of our own invention: one picture, we have decreed, is worth a thousand words, and the camera never lies. But rarely, oh so rarely, does it tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. And nowhere is the whole truth more elusive than in Bosnia, where — precisely because that whole truth is so dauntingly complex and historically obtuse — the fleeting image has taken control.

Those of us pottering around Croatia or Bosnia armed only with grubby notebooks last week were clearly considered second rank. To be taken seriously these days requires a battery of electronics.

In the global armchair theatre, the electronic media are winning the war. The ringmaster for whom politicians and terrorists alike jump through the hoop is the television camera. On the nightly television news, the anchorman (and anchorwoman) — with stiff upper lip or bravely restrained emotion as the occasion demands — relate the deeds of their colleagues in the field as if they were the only true white knights of illumination. While newspapers shoulder the brunt of popular disdain, the media circus basks in its own applause, brooking little criticism.

It is media heresy to suggest that television gets in the way of real reporting, yet in election trails or at peace conferences, microphone booms and video cameras dominate the access to centre stage. Those of us lacking such technological paraphernalia, armed only with notebooks and chewed ballpoint pens, are shunted to the sidelines, to be poked in the eye or dunked on the head.

But this is not just sour grapes. The dominance of the television camera has not blunted the appetite for intelligent words as much as was once feared. What it has done, however, is dramatically increase the circle of public concern about world events: semi-literate pub-goers now have almost as many received ideas about Serbian actions in Bosnia as they do about Arsenal's performance the previous Saturday.

Television reporting has accelerated to near-light speed the rate at which politicians are expected to respond to major events. During the French revolution, reports from Paris in *The Times* were often four or more days old. Now ITN's Penny Marshall, staid with the immediacy of her medium, can write: "Within 20 minutes of the report being rebroadcast on American television, George Bush promised to press for a United Nations resolution on the use of force." The relevant report was, of course, her team's celebrated snippets showing the pathetic plight of emaciated Bosnian prisoners in a Serbian detention camp. Within hours Lady Thatcher was demanding action and implying that her successor was a wimp, while former commando Paddy Ashdown was displaying his spurs on helicopter jaunts around the war zone. All of course, in the full glare of television cameras. The sensation-seeking tabloid newspapers had jumped on the bandwagon with banner headlines across pictures frozen from the television screen proclaiming "Belsen '92".

But it was not, to date there has been no confirmation of the existence of "death camps" on either side in this nasty little war. But that is not the received public impression. To be sure, there are some very unpleasant places

where the common language is fear, malnutrition is the norm and rape, pillage and death everyday occurrences. But that is very different from systematic extermination. ITN would correctly point out here that it is not responsible for the inferences made by sensationalist newspapers or propaganda experts out to exploit a fine piece of objective first-hand reporting. But in Bosnia objectivity is a matter of opinion. And the opinion now is that all reporters are anti-Serb.

The immediacy of television news reporting, thrusting emotive pictures simultaneously under the noses of world leaders and into the living rooms of their electorate, encourages off-the-cuff decision-making. Television news, with its diet of sound-bites and quick cuts, does not have the scope to deal with complex issues. Pictures dominate and time is short, so superficiality is an inherent risk of the medium.

The second risk is the soap opera syndrome. Ms Marshall may protest in the columns of *The Sunday Times* that she was "not interested in becoming part of the story... as a brave girl reporter who had risked death". But despite such self-effacing

sentiments, that is what television is all about. The world's war zones are chock-a-block with would-be Kate Adies risking their lives for minor stations in the hope of landing the big story because they know that what the major networks want is a front-line account from a (preferably pretty) woman in a flakjacket.

But the greatest risk of all is simply that of great power without responsibility. It is now accepted in America that television reporting from Vietnam sapped the nation's will to fight; but many believe it simply sapped the will to win. In war there is usually a loser.

In a three-cornered fight — as in Bosnia — one party will either be forced to the wall or into the arms of one of the other two. That is what is happening to the Muslims who are now left with territory that would be as viable for true stardom as Bophuthatswana.

The one alternative not open to the Muslims is victory. To support the underdog may be good television, but it is not good politics. The best chance for peace in the Balkans is to complete the partition of Bosnia as soon as possible, not use pathos to encourage intervention on behalf of a lost cause. It is

easier for television to keep our attention by tugging our heartstrings with pictures of suffering than seriously to deal with whether or not Dr Radovan Karadzic, leader of the Bosnian Serbs, is or is not a puppet of Slobodan Milosevic, the leader of Serbia proper. Televised operations carried out without anaesthetics evoke instant, easy sympathy, but can actually get in the way of a wider understanding.

Next week's conference in London is almost certainly doomed to failure, chiefly because of the intransigence of the prime belligerents and hidden agendas of almost everyone else. But the task will not be made easier by the off-the-peg ideas now inculcated in the host nation.

The men seated around the conference table will have their hair combed and suits pressed to talk to television interviewers whose rudeness will be calculated to provoke them into anger or admission during their two-minute sound bite.

The old-fashioned art of listening and distilling the facts behind the flannel has been superseded by gladiatorial on-screen pyrotechnics. But then, that's show business.



...and moreover

PETER BARNARD

Nearly three o'clock, only just starting to jolt about. Probably think of something. I blame the *Daily Mirror*. Called the newsagent first thing: could she by chance add a *Mirror* to my normal delivery? Of course she could. *The Times* arrived with a note scrawled on it: "Sorry no *Mirror* left." Could not for a moment think why. Perhaps there had been a run on the pound.

Not that I wanted the *Mirror* for its content, you understand. Fine newspaper, doubtless, but corners have to be cut, time apportioned, reading material pre-edited. The reason I wanted the *Mirror* yesterday was that any journalist at the cutting edge of, shall we say, current affairs, needs to be properly cognisant of what shocking stunts the tabloids are up to. So that he can give an informed opinion, taking in the Press Complaints Commission and its proper role, touching as it will on the difference between the public interest and what interests the public.

The public around here is not, of course, interested. Ten miles to the north is Highgrove, home of the Prince of Wales and that woman he used to be married to. Five miles to the south is Corsham, wherein lives Camilla Parker-Bowles who, along with her husband, is described as a friend of the Prince of Wales. I expect, Old Camilla, just a hang-on, someone to make up the numbers, I daresay.

I daresay? We daresay. Round here, we are royalists. A certain proportion of the local economy is predicated on the understanding that a royal will need more than your average share of gardeners, painters, table polishers, cutlery grinders, delivery men and the like.

We know what is good for us. We are fiercely loyal. So there must be some other reason why, after a 30-mile round trip taking in seven newsagents, I am still without a *Mirror*. The *Mirror* might as well be the *Dallas-Fort Worth Star Telegram* for all that it is available in south Gloucestershire and north Wiltshire. Such was my state of desperation that I had to return home, lunchless, and telephone the features editor of *The Times* to get her to talk me through the pictures. So graphic were her descriptions that I have offered to finance an 0898 number for her.

After that I had to go out again so that I could inform all the fiercely loyal royalists what the pictures showed. To a man and a woman they were horrified that the *Mirror* could do such a thing. They were united in their view that all our frantic attempts to obtain the *Mirror* yesterday constituted the last time any of us would even go near a newsagent that stocked the damned thing. In future, a truckload of *Mirrors* will, in this area, be about as welcome as a man with a white flag in Bosnia.

But we do have a theory. We think that what happened was

that the duchess was about to change from a bikini into a dress when the room she was in caught fire. Minus the top half of the bikini, she rushed from the room in panic.

Unfortunately, some idiot flunk who had just emptied the contents of an ice bucket on to the ground outside and the duchess slipped, skidded along on her back and came to rest, as luck would have it, on a sunlounger.

It was at this point, we think, that John Bryan arrived on the scene. What a courageous man, we feel. He must have seen the flames from some distance and, thinking there might be someone in the room, started running. As he ran towards the room, the duchess rushed out, ran forward, slipped and ended up on the sunlounger. Mr Bryan, realising the person in the room — probably a tourist — had escaped, came to a sudden halt.

Any athlete knows that this can be dangerous and Mr Bryan, in our opinion, pulled a hamstring. The pain would have thrown him forward and he landed, ignominiously, on top of the duchess. Snap, whirr, where's the nearest Boots?

We have not come to any definitive view about the other 2,476 photographs. Perhaps they are fakes, although we cannot yet produce evidence sufficient to have a foreman of the jury shouting "Guilty as charged" at a man from the paparazzi. But we know there is an explanation. We shall probably think of something.

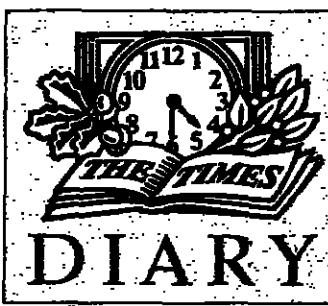
About time for a break

AS HOLIDAY snaps go they were not up to much but the Duchess of York must by now possess one of the most impressive collections of holiday photos since the invention of photography. Psychiatrists claim that holidays are frequently the most stressful time and small wonder, then, that the Duchess has problems. The poor thing has taken no less than 14 holidays in the last nine months and there has not been one which has failed to hit the headlines.

Following her private trip to Canada last November when she was criticised for not attending the Remembrance Day service, the Duchess flew first to New York, followed by a shopping trip in Paris. No doubt exhausted, there was a rest over the Christmas period, before Sarah was again on her travels with a ten-day skiing holiday to Klosters, courtesy of Peter Greenall. No sooner had she arrived back in Britain than another holiday beckoned. This time it was a Moroccan trip with Texan oilman Steve Wyatt, when casual holiday snaps again hit the headlines when they were allegedly found by a cleaner.

Days after those photographs became public, the Duchess flew to Florida where her antics in the plane on the return journey came in for further criticism. Six holidays in scarcely two months clearly demanded that she needed a rest and plans for a second skiing holiday in Austria in February were cancelled. It is said on advice from the Queen, Undersecretary, the Duchess took her children instead to Cornwall where she stayed in Tim Rice's mansion.

The following month her separation from the Duke was announced



and the Duchess, her children and John Bryan were off for an island-hopping holiday lasting over a month and taking in Thailand, Indonesia and Bali. On her return in May she flew to Balmoral for a rare family break with the Duke of York before heading off to Argentina with Bryan in June.

From there it was back to New York, followed swiftly by a trip to EuroDisney. Last month the Duchess was back in Scotland for a holiday with Pamela Stephenson before flying to the south of France with Bryan for the faithful holiday, which resulted in the most reproduced holiday pictures ever. Then it was back to Scotland again and a less than relaxing break at Balmoral.

There must have been some fighting over the breakfast table among the Duchess and the other 15 royals currently staying at Balmoral when the *Menzies* delivery van arrived from Perth yesterday morning with the royal newspapers. The family does not take the *Daily Record*, the *Mirror's* Scottish sister paper, but the newsagents confirm that as usual they delivered one solitary copy of the *Daily Mirror* to the royal household. "They order their own papers, we have no influence over their choice," says a *Menzies* spokesman. And what else is on the order? Five copies of *The Times*, no less.

Moor popular

NOT that anyone would wish to exacerbate the reputed rivalry between Luciano Pavarotti and Placido Domingo, but with both appearing at Covent Garden in coming weeks which top tenor sold out first? Pavarotti opens the season next month in *Tosca* while Domingo follows in October with *Otello*. Top prices for both are £250 and when the postal bookings opened last week *Otello* was declared an immediate sellout while Pavarotti's *Tosca* was not.

Happily, personal callers at the box office have resulted in a second sellout. Those disappointed to have



missed out, however, can still get to see Pavarotti, and far more cheaply than the patrons of the Royal Opera House. For just £10 the maestro can be caught performing at the Bloomsbury Theatre next month where he is giving a masterclass run by Amici di Verdi, whose singers perform in workshops and do complete operas. But with Pavarotti having pulled out of *La Bohème* and *L'elisir d'amore* at Covent Garden last season, ticket-holders will be praying that he catches the plane this time.

Even Shakespeare is not immune from political correctness. The text of *Much Ado About Nothing* has been amended by Oxford Stage Company so that Benedick's line, "If I do not love her, I am a Jew", has become "If I do not love her, I am a fish". Claudio's promise, "I'll hold my mind, were she an Ethiop", has become "I'll hold my mind, were she now destitute". The cast decided the Bard's words were "overtly racist".

Late delivery

THE legendary prima ballerina Anna Pavlova is according to the Inland Revenue, fit, well and dancing in Earls Court. Ballet Creations, the London dance troupe, has just received a tax return from HM Inspector of Taxes addressed to one Pavlova. A Richard Slaughter, the artistic director, has replied, pointing out that Pavlova died in 1931. The Revenue is still unconvinced. Why, they wonder, is the company currently performing a ballet entitled *A Portrait of Anna Pavlova*? Ballet Creations plans to take the production to Greece this autumn — provided, of course, that the Foreign Office can be persuaded to grant the lady a passport.

Given the variety of judicial outfits, it was hardly surprising that sticklers for correct dress should find something wrong in the Lord Chancellor's paper on court attire. Judge Michael Cook complained that a picture of a circuit judge in court dress was in reality a circuit judge in ceremonial garb. "I hope people don't think we ponce about in patent leather shoes with gold buckles and breeches for daily courtwork. The LCD have got it wrong," he said. At Lord Mackay's office, his claim was met with a spokesman's exasperated cry: "Oh no. We were very careful about who wore what and when."



BUSH'S THIN ICE

The Republican faithful last night rallied thunderously to the cause of George Bush for a three-month campaign that will go down as the most astonishing in modern political history if it returns him to office. For the past week he has been promising a comeback that will surpass that of Harry Truman. Clenching his fists and contorting his clichés, he has pounded out an aggressive message of change: of pace, policies and cabinet ministers. Americans, he insists, can trust him; he will get things moving again.

The convention has certainly brought out the fighter in him. He appears at last to have realised the desperate straits he was in, woken up from his sleep-walking campaign, and rediscovered the streak of ruthlessness that destroyed Michael Dukakis four years ago. He has of course been given all the help a convention can contrive: the myriads of media minders to script and broadcast the right message, the public reconciliation of his former rivals, the benediction of his revered predecessor — who almost stole the show — the fealty of a veritable clan of family members, and, perhaps most important, the plain, commonsense charisma of a loyal, loving wife, America's shrewdest grandmother.

Conventions nowadays are coronations, not forums to pick a candidate or formulate policy. What the organisers expect and, especially this time, need, is the "bounce" that propels the anointed up to the top of the polls. So far, Mr Bush has not been lifted much. American voters, it seems, can see through the razzmatazz. He still needs to convince them that he can accomplish in his second term what by common consent he has largely failed to do in his first: boost the sluggish economy, and make an effective attack on the intractable issues of crime, race, poverty, education, the inner cities and the environment. He will need new men around him: many of his present cabinet are worn-out and ineffective. Several old friends must be sacked: Nicholas Brady is now one of the least effective Treasury secretaries in

years, and Richard Darman is floundering as budget director.

Mr Bush's real problem, however, is that in grappling with all these domestic setbacks he must work with a Congress that is virtually certain to be dominated again by a Democratic majority — one that may even be increased. The separation of powers in American government slows down decision-making and makes the job of any president particularly difficult if his programme is hostile to the goodwill of his political opponents. This is why any White House incumbent nowadays must be, above all, a politician: a man who knows how to scheme, flatter, cajole, twist the arms of his opponents, make them offer they cannot refuse, and take his message directly to the voters if frustrated.

This is Mr Bush's great failing. Compared with his predecessor, he is a political infant. He seems incapable of the guile needed to get his way. He never follows through, abandoning policies as soon as they run into opposition. He has not understood the meaning of the White House being a "bully pulpit". He would seem more at home as the head of a bureaucracy than the head of an administration.

So far Mr Bush's tactic has been to blame Congress for the stalemate in domestic policy. This may be an effective campaign weapon but it is not enough. Unless he can show how he will bend a new Congress to his will, the voter's logical reaction is to vote for a president from the same party as Congress. In foreign policy, Mr Bush's forte, such restrictions do not exist. That is partly why the president has been so successful, forceful and decisive. It would be a pity if he were to talk down his considerable achievements abroad in an attempt to convince voters he can achieve the same at home. But persuading them he will indeed do so much in domestic policy is now his overwhelming need. And to do so, he must fight the good fight as he has never fought before.

LEARNING TO TRUST

Nothing could be better testimony to the success of opted-out hospitals than that they are so envied by those still working under the wing of health authorities. Unlike schools, hospitals are offered no bribes to choose trust status. Unlike schools, it is from Whitehall rather than from local authorities that they have been offered freedom. Yesterday, the health department announced that another 151 want to join the 156 NHS trusts that have already opted out.

It is too soon to judge the performance of the existing trust hospitals except provisionally. Most had to accustom themselves to new ways of working before starting to reallocate their priorities and redeploy their staff and other resources. Yesterday the health secretary, Virginia Bottomley, was able none the less to claim that in their first year they had treated 8 per cent more patients than the year before.

What is increasingly apparent is that hospital managers are relishing their new-found freedom. They can recruit more easily because they are not bound by rigid, nationally agreed terms and conditions of service. They are able to develop ways to make money from the private sector that can then be used to improve care for their NHS patients. And by saving money through becoming more efficient, they should be able to increase the overall number of patients they can treat.

Once they have opted out of NHS management, hospital administrators have more incentive to ensure that their hospitals are run in the best interests of patients rather than for the convenience of doctors. Indeed, with "money following patients" they have no choice. Now that hospitals are run by managers alongside doctors, money no longer tends to drift towards the consultant with the loudest voice or the highest-tech

speciality. Managers, when deciding priorities, have to think harder about the value for money of different treatments. Five hundred hernia operations may be more valuable to the hospital — and the health of the community — than one organ transplant.

Nowhere should this be more apparent than in London. The capital is over-provided with prestigious teaching hospitals, but is lax in primary care. The casualty departments of some have recently been shown to be understaffed and inefficient. If the internal market forces hospitals to merge or close their teaching departments, but allows more community health clinics and geriatric units to open, some consultants may boo but patients should cheer.

Already the trusts are proving themselves in the market place. An independent survey earlier this year found that 48 per cent of patients thought services had improved since their hospital had become a trust; only 7 per cent thought they had worsened. Turning the biggest employer in Europe into a more user-friendly organisation was never going to be easy. NHS employees, some of whose jobs have been threatened by the reforms, are noisy and unionised. Nor are hospital patients an organised pressure group. The government invited unpopularity for the trusts by talking too little about benefits and too much about business methods and "resource management".

Mrs Bottomley has learned from her predecessors. Words such as market and competition are banned. Every time she talks about the NHS, she stresses that the reforms are meant to improve life for ill people, not to save money or ease the working conditions of doctors or nurses. At this rate, the government might even begin to win an argument on what has traditionally been Labour's home ground.

ROYALTY UNCOVERED

There must come a point in the course of exaggerated demands for royal privacy where a reasonable person has to stand back and say "Oh, come off it". The latest furore over the matrimonial affairs of the royal family concerns photographs of the Duchess of York published in the *Daily Mirror* and various European magazines. Buckingham Palace has deplored the publication. There are already renewed calls for a protection-of-privacy law to stop such intrusion.

The pictures clearly show the duchess in varying degrees of intimacy with her American "financial adviser", John Bryan, who has vigorously denied any such relationship with her. Included in the pictures are her children and her British police bodyguards. Though separated, the duchess remains married to Prince Andrew. There has recently been talk of a reconciliation, though the pictures suggest little hope of this. The duchess has made considerable use of the media to press her case over the separation. To hope that pictures such as these would not break surface is like hoping to put a cap on an active volcano.

The behaviour of the royal family is not just a matter of intense public curiosity — not in itself a justification for a breach of privacy — but is also of some public importance and concern. The monarch retains constitutional functions. However much Buckingham Palace may long to elevate the presentation of the modern monarchy from the mundane doings of the royal family, the latter unavoidably impinge on the former. They impinge because the monarchy extends in practice, and partly in law, beyond the person of the Queen herself.

The monarch does not behave simply as a head of state doing a job of work. The entire paraphernalia of "the family" is invoked on

all royal occasions. The royal family is paid under a special and now entrenched civil list vote. It enjoys tax privileges and a style of life extensively underpinned by public money. Many of its members work hard in return and enjoy public support and affection. But the family cannot pretend that its private behaviour will forever be shielded from the interest of the nation or, in matters of matrimony, that it can dictate when publicity will be welcomed and when censored.

There is no case for a law protecting anybody's privacy in Britain. The concept of such a law has been extensively studied, and presumably will be studied again by Sir David Calcutt in his current review of his 1990 report. Where laws exist abroad, they are either virtually dead letters or they protect the powerful rather than aid the afflicted. Defining the precise damage caused by an intrusion is too difficult. So too is drawing a line between what publicity is fair and unfair, what is welcome and what is hurtful, what is of public import and what is not.

The best defence the duchess and the rest of the royal family can throw up against intrusion is to show greater discretion in their private behaviour. The best response of those who deplore intrusion is to exhort newspapers that intrude without any of the justifications mentioned in the Press Complaints Commission's code of practice. Given the publicity surrounding the duchess's present marital state, a defence of "public interest" could probably be sustained, though the degree of intrusion might seem disproportionate and the lack of taste deplorable. But these are matters of opinion, not susceptible to the law. To expect a legal fiat to lay down the bounds of good taste in a matter such as this is to invite the retort, "Oh, come off it".

Need to help Balkan refugees and make sanctions work

From Lord Clinton-Davis,
Chairman of the Refugee Council

Sir, The terrible conflict in what was Yugoslavia has produced a displacement of people the like of which we have not seen in Europe since 1945. About 2.5 million people — about the population of Wales — have been driven from their homes by violence and the threat of violence. Many people throughout Europe have responded with great generosity and both Britain and the EC must be commended for the way they have contributed to the joint UNHCR/Unicef/WHO appeal for funds.

Nevertheless, it is disappointing that at a time when asylum policies are being harmonised across the EC we have not seen a more co-ordinated approach by the EC member states in their response to the crisis. Germany has accepted more than 200,000 refugees, while some other countries have imposed visas and Britain has even deported asylum-seekers who have passed through "safe" third countries.

We are dealing with a European problem and it should be tackled on a Europe-wide basis. The responsibility for assisting those who remain as displaced people in the former Yugoslav republics, for helping and if necessary resettling those who have fled as refugees, and for the longer-term task of reconstruction in the area, must be equitably shared within the Community.

Achieving a satisfactory political settlement will of course be immensely difficult, but here again the EC must play a key role. I have no solution to offer on how the conflict might be resolved, but as a guiding principle I would say there can be no place in a democratic Europe for any state based on ethnic exclusiveness, and no state which practices ethnic exclusivism should ever be eligible for EC membership.

Britain, as current holder of the EC presidency, must now give a lead in ensuring a co-ordinated EC response to the crisis. Next week's international conference in London gives us an opportunity to do just that.

Yours sincerely,
CLINTON-DAVIS, Chairman,
The Refugee Council,
3 Bondway, SW8,
August 18.

From Dr Christopher Besse and Mr Nicholas Mellor

Sir, Much attention has focused on the tragedy of Sarajevo, where the violence that has gripped the city appears to have taken it beyond the brink of any effective intervention. A similar tragedy is poised to happen

in Kosovo. Can we react in time to alleviate the worst?

Of the two million people in Kosovo, close to 90 per cent are of Albanian origin. However, Kosovo used to be at the centre of the medieval Serbian empire. The forcible integration of Kosovo into Greater Serbia has begun in the face of passive opposition from the Albanians.

Serbian soldiers who pulled out of Macedonia when it declared its independence have been transferred to Kosovo. Serbian artillery has been deployed around Pristina, Kosovo's capital. Serbian irregulars are already active on the streets of Pristina.

The systematic repression of the Albanians has started a flow of refugees out of this region. Albanians no longer daring to visit the Serbian-administered hospitals have set up makeshift hospitals. Muslim refugees from Bosnia forcefully moved into Kosovo are further destabilising the situation. A confrontation in Kosovo may help keep the fires of Serbian nationalism burning, and provide another diversion from the growing discontent in Belgrade.

The West needs to act now by establishing a mission in Kosovo, providing medical relief, and by making the contingency arrangements should the situation deteriorate further. Such a mission — we write as experienced relief workers — could provide the basis for a defensible sanctuary for the Albanians and would demonstrate the West's recognition of their plight. It could also serve as a deterrent to an all-out Serbian invasion and reduce the risk of war breaking out between Serbia and Albania.

Once before Britain was faced with such a challenge. In Kurdistan it took the lead in calling for a safe haven, which led to the historic UN humanitarian intervention in the region. Medical teams already exist in Britain with experience of such relief operations and the peculiarities of the Balkan situation.

Britain is one of the few countries with a government strong enough to take such initiatives in the past and respected enough to lead the way now.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER BESSE,
NICHOLAS MELLOR,
62 Holland Park Mews, W11,
August 19.

From Mr Michael Colvin, MP for
Romsey and Waterside
(Conservative)

Sir, The tougher response by Britain and other Western governments to events in former Yugoslavia is to be

Sinister tendency

From Mr Mario Dunn

Sir, I was fascinated by the report (August 13) by Joe Joseph about left-handed people. He paints a picture of us as potential psychopaths, with genetic defects, incapable of simple domestic chores and not suited to reading or writing the English language.

Believe it or not I can use a can opener very easily, no problem reading books, can negotiate my way through doors and have absolutely no desire to murder anyone.

Mr Joseph also attempted to dismiss our refuge in the argument that there are many famous left-handers. What he did not mention was that as a proportion, left-handers make up a greater amount of the great and the good than there are left-handers in the population as a whole.

Rather than feeling deflated at lacking life's basic skills, I feel somewhat more superior in the company of Einstein and Leonardo.

Yours sincerely,
M. DUNN,
233 Balham High Road, SW17,
August 13.

From Dr Vyvyan Howard

Sir, Your report did not mention that there are two distinct categories of left-handedness, familial and non-familial.

It is only those who do not inherit their sinister characteristic that have the probability of a reduced life expectancy through increased risk of accident.

Yours faithfully,
a familial left-hander,
VYVYAN HOWARD,
University of Liverpool,
Department of Foetal and
Infant Pathology,
PO Box 146,
Liverpool L69 3BX,
August 14.

Schools policy

From the General Secretary of
the National Association of
Head Teachers

Sir, Among the welter of debate and comment on the education white paper, too little attention appears to have been given to the means by which the government hopes to encourage most of the country's maintained secondary schools, and a significant proportion of the maintained primary schools, to become grant-maintained by the next election.

The white paper is vague on the method by which the cash for grant-maintained schools will be calculated from April 1994. All it says is that a new formula, which will not be introduced until there are sufficient primary or secondary schools in a local authority to justify it, will

Muslim women's role

From Mrs Nosret Crowther

Sir, May I add a qualifying note to the letters (August 13, 17) on Muslim women in response to Matthew Parris's article, "Still the world's outcasts" (August 10). Sexual oppression throughout the Gulf countries, where I was raised, is a fundamental human rights issue (I write as a Muslim woman). The Barcelona Olympics provided substantive proof of this oppression of Muslim women by Muslim men; and of the West's passivity.

It is a misguided belief that Muslim women are now taking their rightful place in society. In education, only a few women have been educated to the highest level of international attainment. Afterwards, suffocated by male prejudice, they have no opportunity to fulfil their potential.

I believe that there are some women who are embracing Islam in the West, and at the same time rejecting fanatical Muslim ideas. Will we be able to welcome the full talents of the Gulf countries in Atlanta?

Yours faithfully,
N. CROWTHER,
Little Hill, Colley Manor Drive,
Reigate Heath, Reigate, Surrey.

From Mrs Farah Karim-Ismail

Sir, Matthew Parris is mixing up religion and how men of various societies choose to treat their women. I am sure that there are men in Christianity who treat their women as second-class citizens but that does not make me think that it is a "Christian" trait. I wish people in the West would not say that everything a Muslim does is connected with Islam.

I am a Muslim woman who has been brought up and educated in Britain by parents who encouraged my education in every way, but at the same time taught me to live like a

welcomed, but I regret that there have been no surgical air strikes against Serbian armaments factories, supply routes or artillery emplacements, and no effective blockade to make sanctions work. On the other hand, by restricting Bosnia, we have helped to create an unlevel battlefield and contributed towards a Serbian victory.

Government action, though belated, must now ensure that food and medical supplies reach beleaguered areas, concentration camps are properly supervised and plans implemented to deal with millions of refugees.

But that is not all. Next week's peace conference in London must acknowledge that once hostilities have ceased, Serbia must not be permitted to partition Bosnia. My fear is that the Serbs will then commence in earnest the "ethnic cleansing" of Kosovo, which will trigger reactions from Albania and Turkey, inflame Macedonia and draw Greece and possibly Bulgaria into the conflict. We could then see a full-scale Balkan war which would involve Islam world-wide with dire consequences for us all.

It is still not too late for the United Nations to issue an ultimatum to Serbia, with the clear threat of a full trade embargo and military strikes if Serbia persists in defying international opinion. Bosnia may have been our "Czechoslovakia". Kosovo could be our "Poland". September 3 is getting closer.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL COLVIN (Chairman,
Conservative Parliamentary Foreign
Affairs Committee),
House of Commons,
August 19.

From Mr S. P. Whitley

Sir, In his letter (August 14) about the Balkans conflict, Brigadier R. H. Fisher says: "Let us be clear about one thing — the role of our forces is to ensure the country [the UK] and its interests." Does that, I wonder, comprise our total obligations to Nato, the WEU and the UN?

Yours faithfully,
S. P. WHITLEY,
Flat 2, 5 Palmeira Avenue,
Hove, East Sussex,
August 14.

From Mr Gordon M. L. Smith

Sir, Has any Muslim country accepted a single Muslim refugee from "ethnic cleansing"?

Yours faithfully,
GORDON M. L. SMITH,
9 Greenfield Way,
Storrington, West Sussex,
August 14.

Muslim, e.g. have Islamic morals and principles.

Islam encourages discipline and very high moral standards which unfortunately are misinterpreted by the West as oppression. It encourages good behaviour from men and women, and not one law for men and one for women. How individuals interpret it is up to them.

Yours faithfully,
FARAH KARIM-ISMAIL,
91 Coombe Gardens,
New Malden, Surrey.

From Mrs Sabera Malik

Sir, The beautiful system that is Islam is totally opposed to the injustices done against women in the world today. The customs described in Mr Parris's article stem from pre-Islamic and also modern cultural factors.

I am sickened by the assumption that a Muslim woman is some sort of soulless nonentity, suppressed and oppressed. This stereotypical image was originally fostered by Christian missionaries and also orientalists.

At a time when Europe was still debating the existence of a woman's soul, we had Muslim women poets, writers, doctors, scholars and teachers, some of whom were very prominent members of society.

Muslim women were given the right to vote 13 centuries before anyone had ever heard of the suffrage movement. It was a right given to us by God that we did not have to fight for.

In Islam a woman is treated with respect and honour. She is appreciated for what she has to say and not judged by her appearance. Western women are made to feel that they have to look more and more attractive to the opposite sex. The majority of western men still see women as their playthings.

Yours faithfully,
SABERA MALIK,
13 Beaconsfield Road, Leyton, E10,
August 13.

possible how much grant-maintained schools can expect to receive, authority by authority, when the new arrangements come into place.

The government cannot be so naive as to believe that all schools are thinking of becoming grant-maintained because they are solely attracted by its philosophical principles. Most will only take the plunge if the money is right and they can see that, in going grant-maintained, they can improve the quality of provision for their pupils.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID HART, General Secretary,
National Association of
Head Teachers,
1 Heath Square, Bolso Road,
Haywards Heath, West Sussex,
August 18.

Business letters, page 19

Musical chairs at Radio 3

From Dr Norman Jones

Sir, Gerald Kaufman ("A musical turn-off", August 17) highlights the trivialities of the new Radio 3. It is easy to identify the musical population who will be "turned off" by the new format; the question is, what section of the musical public, which hitherto supported other programmes, will be attracted to it?

Market research has presumably identified a population, large enough to justify courtship, whose delight in a work of classical music is exhausted after about eight minutes.

Moreover this portion of the listening public apparently possesses an intelligence that is satisfied by the news headline that President Bush launched the Republican convention with the plea that Republicans should trust in him. One sentence, forming some 20 per cent of the news headlines, presumably addressed to an audience that countenanced the possibility that President Bush would say something else.

Mr Kaufman's article expresses most cogently what I, and I believe many listeners to music in the UK, think that the BBC has made an enormous miscalculation. May it have the strength and the grace to correct its error.

Yours truly,
NORMAN JONES,
St Thomas' Hospital,
Lambeth Palace Road, SE1,
August 19.

From Mr Andrew C. Moore

Sir, I agree with Gerald Kaufman. The chatter in Radio 3's *On Air* is inane, the news coverage dismal (who listens to Radio 3 for news?), and I deplore the playing of odd movements; but at 7.30am I have no wish to be educated or stretched: a "warm bath of familiarity" is just fine. Longer, more demanding works are annoying while I am dressing and preparing breakfast, being unable to give the necessary time to them.

Radio 3 still devotes most of the day to weightier matters, and it now seems forgotten that the early evening slot was formerly occupied by *Mainly for Pleasure*, which was as much like Radio 2's *Your Hundred Best Tunes* as Radio 3's new *In Tune*.

Yours faithfully,
A. MOORE,
38 Kensington Avenue, Normanby,
Middlebrough, Cleveland,
August 18.

From Mr Ronald Forrest

Sir, Is it not possible to organise a group for the defence of Radio 3? It is surely somewhat defeatist simply to resort to cassette recordings of past Radio 3 productions, as Mr Kaufman proposes to do. Instead, could he not be persuaded, now that politics will make fewer demands on his time, to found such an organisation? There would be widespread support.

Yours faithfully,
RONALD FORREST,
Delfryn, Castle Morris,
Nr Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire,
August 17.

From Miss Kathleen Taylor

Sir, Between *The Times* and Mr Nicholas Kenyon, controller of Radio 3, have changed my life. Until I read his article I had never agreed with Mr Kaufman on any topic whatsoever; now, alas, I must.

Yours faithfully,
KATHLEEN TAYLOR,
43 Dumbarton Road, Stirling.

Closed shop?

From Mr Geoffrey Negus

Sir, About 60 names appear in the most recent lists of elections to fellowship of the Royal Aeronautical Society and the Institute of Marine Engineers (report, August 18). All of them appear to be men.

Assuming that these organisations are not practising sexual discrimination, is this not a depressing indication of the continuing failure of women to penetrate the higher levels of engineering?

Yours sincerely,
GEOFFREY NEGUS,
2 Heathcote Avenue,
Solihull, West Midlands,
August 18.

The last straw

From Mrs Sally Barnes

Sir, If we must have these polythene-wrapped cylindrical hay bales in our beautiful countryside (letters, August 12, 18) why can't they be in green or perhaps straw-coloured plastic instead of unsightly black?

Yours faithfully,
SALLY BARNES,
68 Baker Street,
Potters Bar, Hertfordshire,
August 18.

From Wing Commander Derek
Dudley Martin

Sir, In view of the generosity over the years of the common agricultural policy perhaps the cylindrical hay bales could be referred to as "bank rolls".

Yours faithfully,
DEREK MARTIN,
Cobble Wood, Medmenham,
Nr Marlow, Buckinghamshire,
August 18.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 071-782 5046.

SOCIAL NEWS

Princess Margaret celebrates her birthday today

Birthdays today

Dame Janet Baker, opera singer, 59; Mr. Christopher Brasher, Olympic gold medalist and former race director, London Marathon, 64; Miss Diana Churchill, actress, 79; Lord Goodman, C.H., 79; Sir Joshua Hession, former Chief Minister of Gibraltar, 77; Miss Anne Hobbs, tennis player, 33; the Hon Gerald Lascelles, 68; Dr T.P. McLean, former director, Atomic Weapons Research Establishment, 62; Mr Barry Norman, broadcaster, 59; the Earl of Northampton, 47; Mr Kenny Rogers, country music singer, 51; Colonel J.M. Small, newspaper proprietor, 71; Mr Sam Togo, former chairman, Ford Motor Company, 69; Lieutenant-General Sir Richard Vickers, 64.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: St Francis de Sales, Doctor of the Church, near Anney, France, 1567; Jean Baptiste Grazeau, painter, Macon, 1725; William Murdoch, inventor, Auchinleck, Strathclyde, 1754; King William IV, reigned 1830-37; Buckingham Palace, 1765; August Bournonville, writer, Copenhagen, 1805; Charles Gerhardt, chemist, Strasbourg, 1816; Aubrey Beardsley, illustrator, Brighton, 1872; 'Count' Basie, New Jersey, 1904.

DEATHS: Richard Crasnow, poet, Loreto, Italy, 1649; Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, writer, London, 1762; William Maginn, writer, Walton-on-Thames, 1842; Constant Lambert, composer, London, 1913; Sir Jacob Epstein, sculptor, London, 1959; Sabina, 11, King of Swaziland 1899-1982; 1982; George Adamson, conservationist, murdered, Kenya, 1989.

Memorial service

Mary Lady Housburgh-Porter. A service of thanksgiving for the life of Mary Lady Housburgh-Porter was held yesterday at St Mary's, Salford, Oxfordshire. The Rev. John Evans officiated. Sir John Housburgh, son, and Mrs. William Barlow, grandson, read the lessons and Mr Nicholas Chambers, C.Q., gave an address.

Prince to present Times arts sponsor awards

By SIMON TAIT, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

THE Prince of Wales is to present this year's ABSA/Arthur Andersen Awards, recognising and encouraging business support for the arts.

In spite of the recession, business support for the arts is expected to be worth £60 million in the current financial year.

The awards, first made 15 years ago, are to be given in ten categories in association with the Times and will be presented on the Olivier stage of the National Theatre on December 11. They were last presented by the Prince of Wales, the patron of the Association for Business Sponsorship of the Arts (ABSA), with the Princess of Wales in their tenth anniversary year in 1987.

Winners will receive works of art by David Harrison, a first year sculpture post-graduate student at the Royal College of Art.

The partnership of Arthur Andersen and The Times, is a new one to be marked by the Arthur Andersen Award for the business adviser of the

Chartered Accountants

The following have been elected officers of the Company of Chartered Accountants of England and Wales:

Master, Mr F.E. Worsley; Senior Warden, Mrs B.M. Culverhouse; Junior Warden, Mr F.B. Harrison.

Salmon in peace

A team of former miners has laid a gas pipeline nine ft under the bed of the River Lynher near Salnash, Cornwall, so as not to disturb spawning salmon and trout.

The 50 yards of piping would normally have been laid in a trench in the river bed. The tunnelling work cost £20,000.

Stake in Dracula

The Dracula Experience exhibition in the Captain's reading room at Whiteby, North Yorkshire, is for sale, priced at £100,000. Bram Stoker chose Whiteby as the setting for one of his Dracula story.

Cottages moved

Two eighteenth century farm labourers' cottages at Luton, Bedfordshire, have been dismantled and moved to the Chiltern Open Air Museum in Chalfont St Giles, Buckinghamshire. The £40,000 restoration included lining the chimneys with cow dung.

Lone seal

A ringed seal, rarely found south of Iceland, is being cared for at Orkney Seal Rescue Centre. It is the first confirmed report of a ringed seal in Orkney waters. The female was found stranded in a millpond at Tankerness.

Stour polluted

The river Stour at Flitford Mill, Herefordshire, is being polluted by sewage. Visitors will now see warning signs on the river bank for bathers.

THESE MEN USE SHELL



YOU CAN BE SURE OF SHELL

Stylised thirties sophistication: a racing driver, cigarette in mouth, in the pits at Brooklands, perhaps

Sixpenny posters become classics

By JOHN SHAW

POSTERS that were once stuck on the side of delivery lorries and have become classics of commercial art today are expected to make up to £40,000 at auction in London on October 13.

They come from the archives at Shell, one of the great patrons of innovative advertising, and are largely drawn from its stylish and imaginative campaigns between the wars.

The oil company employed a large group of young artists, many of whom later became internationally known, and their work has been attracting keen collector interest.

Posters like "I prefer Shell," by E. McKnight Kauffer (1935) which once sold for 6d each (about 2½p) to early enthusiasts outside Shell Mex House in The Strand now go for up to £1,900 at auction.

The transformation from ads to art has prompted the oil company to put a substantial group of 140 posters on the market for the first time while still keeping its own collection intact. They will be sold at Phillips in Bond Street.

The posters cover the period from the 1920s to the early 1950s, but the core is a series which began life as lorry bills between 1932-9. Chippy, witty and often highly-sophisticated, they embraced artistic styles from the nostalgic to the avant garde.

They did not just sell petrol. They sold reliability, the pleasure of the open road in a pre-motorway era when driving was called motoring and car

ownership was relatively restricted. They had an unmistakable tone which came from Jack Beddington, advertising manager during those years.

He had complained about the company's mundane advertising and as a result was put in charge. He had no advertising experience but possessed a flair for publicity, an appreciation of contemporary art and a brother in the art world.

Paul Nash, Ben Nicholson, Tristram Hillier, Edward Bawden, Duncan Grant, Hans Schlegel, John Armstrong, Rex Whistler and Bernard Fry were among those who joined the stable.

Graham Sutherland received his first professional commission from Shell. Work by Nash and Suther-

land is sought after but the market leader among collectors is McKnight Kauffer, an American who arrived in Britain in 1914. He produced some of his most vivid and original designs for the company which married image and typography in a highly dynamic manner.

"A lot of his posters are very valuable as he is seen as one of the first true graphic artists. He was excellent on design," said Ted Sheppard, the Shell archivist.

A selection of 70 is on show at Phillips until August 28. Pre-sale estimates range from £100 to £1,200 but are only a guide. The auction coincides with the publication of *The Shell Poster Book* about the collection as a whole which is published by Hamish Hamilton.

TO VISIT BRITAIN'S LANDMARKS



FOLLY HOUSES, DARLEY ABBEY

YOU CAN BE SURE OF SHELL

Charming thirties calm: ringed by a picket fence, Folly Houses at Darley Abbey by Rowland Suddaby

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A.I. Bell and Miss L.I. Ives. The engagement is announced between Alastair John, third son of Mrs Barbara Ridgway and the late Mr Harold Bell, of Surrey and Sidmouth, Devon, and Lucy Ives, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs David Ives, of Goulceby, Lincolnshire.

Dr J.A. Boyden and Dr P. Medcalf. The engagement is announced between James Anthony, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Alan Boyden, of Hinton St George, Somerset, and Pippa, second daughter of Mr and Mrs Philip Medcalf, of South Wootton, Wiltshire.

Major C.A. Campbell and Miss R.L. Nicholson. The engagement is announced between Major Alastair Campbell, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, eldest son of Lieutenant Colonel and Mrs Robert Campbell, of Altrincham, Manchester, and Rosemary, youngest daughter of Sir David and Lady Nicholson, of Renagour, Aberdeenshire, Perthshire.

Dr R.E. Davies and Dr R.C. Moon. The engagement is announced between Robert, son of Mr and Mrs William Davies, of Ashperton, Hereford, and Ruth, only daughter of Mrs Alynwyn Moon, of Southampton, Hampshire, and Mr Arnold Moon, of Plymouth, Devon.

Mr P.W. Dickson and Miss B.M. Mackintosh. The engagement is announced between Paul, son of Bill and May Dickson, of Motors, Terrace, Edinburgh, and Bridget, daughter of Lachlan and Celia Mackintosh, of Mackintosh, Moy Hall, Inverness.

Mr D. Jelen and Miss J. Rosenfeld. The engagement is announced between David, only son of Mr Philip Jelen and the late Mrs Jelen, of San Francisco, and Judith, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Daniel Rosenfeld, of London.

Mr A.N.G. Linden and Miss S.L. Benfield. The engagement is announced between Adrian, son of Mr and Mrs Nicholas Linden, of East Sheen, London, and Susan, daughter of Mrs Anne Benfield and the late Mr William Benfield, of Shepherds Bush, London.

Mr D.C. MacDermot and Miss R. Rehder. The engagement is announced between Dominic, son of Mr and Mrs Brian MacDermot, of Wetherden, Suffolk, and Emma, elder daughter of Senator Ruben Rehder and Senora Maria Elisa Rehder, of Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Mr P.A. Wilson and Miss C.P. Best. The engagement is announced between Philip, youngest son of Dr J.D. and R.A.J. Willatt, of Chichester, West Sussex, and Clare, daughter of the Hon Patrick and Mrs Best, of Petersfield, Hampshire.

The Rev S.M. Wooley and Miss G.C. Rowley. The engagement is announced between Stephen, youngest son of Mr and Mrs C.B. Wooley, of Upton, Wiltshire, and Gillian, third daughter of Mr and Mrs J.G. Rowley, of Winchmore Hill, London.

Marriage
Mr P.J. Whyte and Miss M.D. Kapoor. The marriage took place on August 14, at the Ursuline Convent Chapel, Brentwood, Essex, only son of Commander and Mrs M. Whyte, of Plymouth, and Monica, elder daughter of Dr and Mrs P. Kapoor, of Hornchurch, Essex. The Rev Father David Manson officiated.

The bride was given in marriage by her father and was attended by her sister, Miss Sabina Kapoor. Mr Paul Stevens was best man. A reception was held at Ponds Park, Great Baddow and the honeymoon is being spent in Italy.

Stylish envoy makes a dramatic entrance

FROM RICHARD BEBSTON IN BEIRUT

BEIRUT residents could be forgiven for believing yesterday that the days of militia rule had returned, when a convoy of limousines guarded by gunmen made its way noisily through the city's traffic.

However, the figure at the centre of the commotion was an elegantly dressed English woman wearing a floral dress with white gloves and a stylish black hat, who looked better suited for Ascot than the war-torn streets of Muslim Beirut.

The mystery was solved: Lebanese President Elias Hrawi's residence, where the presidential guard of honour struck up a strained rendition of God Save the Queen and Maevie Fort officially became Her Britannic Majesty's new ambassador plenipotentiary to the Republic of Lebanon.

Judging by the scenes at the president's office, the new British envoy managed to make a persuasive display of enthusiasm for her new job, which must rank as one of the most perilous and least popular ambassadorial appointments in the diplomatic service.

That message was brought home to one of her predecessors Sir David Miles, currently the ambassador in Athens,



Fort dressed more for Ascot than war-torn Beirut

who was nearly killed in September 1984 when an Islamic Jihad suicide car bomber drove a truck packed with explosives into the US embassy in east Beirut killing 20 people. Sir David emerged unscathed from the explosion and succeeded in pulling the US envoy from the rubble.

True, the new ambassador will enjoy a lifestyle of some luxury in the exclusive hillside suburb of Rabie in Christian east Beirut. But Miss Fort will also have to fight hard to make her presence felt in a male-dominated Arab society, which makes Whitehall's Old Boy network look decidedly progressive.

Telephone 071 481 4000

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Telefax 071 782 7827

How deep are the waters and the wisdom and the knowledge, how unsearchable his ways? Romans 11:33 RSB

BIRTHS

ALDERSON - On August 19th, at the Maternity Hospital, Hong Kong, to Jacqueline (nee Smith) and Christopher, a daughter, Hannah Elizabeth.

COLLETT - On August 16th, 1992, to Jane (nee Colley) and Anthony, a daughter, Fiona Jane, a sister for Rupert.

CRICKETON - On August 18th, 1992, to Alicia (nee Ford) and Scott, a daughter, Marie Elizabeth Alice.

EDWARDS - On August 18th, 1992, to Hilary (nee Kelly) and Thomas Edward, a daughter, Susanna Alice Ruth.

GOWING - On August 16th, to Teresa (nee Dowling) and Paul, a daughter, Katherine Hannah, a sister for Alexander.

GRIMES - On August 7th, to Sally (nee Stevens) and Mark, a daughter, Zoe Isabel, a sister for Jack and Will.

IMRAY - On August 18th, to Sylvia (nee Varwood Brown) and Christopher, a son, a brother for Caitlin.

MASTROTTI - On August 19th, 1992, to Jennifer (nee Wilkinson) and Ian, twin sons, Robert Stephen and Edward Thomas, brothers for Fiona.

MORRISON - On August 20th, 1992, to Tania and Stuart, a beautiful son, Alexander Mackenzie.

MOSTYN-OWEN - On August 7th, to Cassandra (nee Pryce-Jones) and Owen, a daughter, Clara Clare.

NORTON - On August 19th, in Tokyo, to Natasha (nee Stokes) and Alexander, a daughter, Iona.

PAINES - On August 14th, to Alice (nee Roberts) and Nicholas, a daughter, Katherine Anne Erica, a sister for Rupert and Emily.

ROSE - On August 18th, at The Lindo Ward, St Mary's, Paddington, to Pippa (nee Savill) and Martyn, a son, Charles Murray Craig, a brother for Lizzie.

BIRTHS

STODDART - On Thursday August 20th, 1992 at Westminster, to Margaret (nee Davies) and Carolyn, a sister for Robert.

SURFITT-PAIR - On August 14th, at Leicester General Hospital, to Deborah (nee Harris) and Michael, a daughter, Hannah Elizabeth, a sister for Emily.

WADDEY - On August 20th, in New Zealand, to Sarah (nee Bebb) and Michael, a daughter, Charlotte.

WHEATLEY - On August 19th, to Victoria (nee Loxley) and Gregory, a son, Christopher George Thomas.

SHARPLES-KYNASTON - On August 1st, 1992, at St Peter's Church, Colton, Cambridge, Richard to Anne.

BRIDGES - On August 9th, peacefully in Aintree to Leslie Walter.

100th year - Jane, widow of Leslie Walter.

CULMER - On August 19th, 1992, to Jennifer (nee Wilkinson) and Ian, twin sons, Robert Stephen and Edward Thomas, brothers for Fiona.

MORRISON - On August 20th, 1992, to Tania and Stuart, a beautiful son, Alexander Mackenzie.

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WHEATLEY - On August 19th, to Victoria (nee Loxley) and Gregory, a son, Christopher George Thomas.

DEATHS

DEAN - On August 18th, 1992, peacefully, London. Formerly F.O.B., formerly of Barnet, London. Beloved husband of the late Joan. Service at New Southgate Crematorium, 11.45 am, August 27th.

GREEN - On Thursday August 20th, 1992, peacefully at home, after much suffering courageously borne. Frederick Charles of Hockenden, dearly loved husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. Family flowers only but donations to Addenbrooks' Hospital, 1000, 1992, peacefully at home, after much suffering courageously borne.

HEYWOOD - On August 17th, aged 88, peacefully, beloved wife of the late Graham Heywood and dearly loved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Family flowers only but donations to Addenbrooks' Hospital, 1000, 1992, peacefully at home, after much suffering courageously borne.

ELTON - On August 17th, 1992, peacefully at Midleton on Sea, West Sussex. Jane Elizabeth (nee Jenkins) aged 43 years. Devoted and loving mother of Rachel, Emily, Charles and Victoria. The much loved step-daughter of Tommy and a wonderful friend to Tim's wife Helen and their children Sarah, Katy and Christopher. Funeral service at St John's Church, Lokerley, Romsey, Hants, on Friday August 28th at 11.30 am. Flowers or donations if desired to Alzheimer's Disease Society, c/o A.H. Cheever, Farnham, Surrey.

HUGHES - On August 17th, 1992, in St Mary's Hospital, Kingston, after a short illness, peacefully. Family flowers only please but donations if desired to the R.N.L.I. (Rythe Branch) or The Pigeons' Hospice, Canterbury, c/o Chatterbox Funeral Services, Windmill Street, Hythe, Kent CT21 6BH, tel: (0303) 267762.

FANCETT - On August 14th, 1992, peacefully at home, Anthony Thomas, aged 53, surrounded by love and care. Beloved husband of Sylvia. Much loved father to Mark, Leon, Carl and Anthony. Funeral service at Exford Crematorium on Friday August 21st at 12.15 pm. "Your life a beautiful memory - your absence our silent grief".

JONES - On August 19th, 1992, peacefully in hospital, Jean (nee Ridge) aged 82, widow of Alf, much loved mother of Margaret and Susan and grandmother of Charlotte, Robert, Mark and Jacqui. Funeral service at St John's Church, Lokerley, Romsey, Hants, on Friday August 27th at 11.30 am. Flowers or donations if desired to Alzheimer's Disease Society, c/o A.H. Cheever, Farnham, Surrey.

MORRIS - On August 19th, 1992, peacefully at home, Louis, beloved husband and friend to Rosemary, dearly loved father of Peter, Joanne and Brian and great-grandfather of Tom, Paul, Vicki, William and Caroline. Funeral service at St Simon's Church, London SW2, on Monday August 24th at 2.30 pm. Flowers by 11 am on August 23rd. Family flowers only please but donations if desired to Age Concern, 15-27 Young Street, London W8 2EH.

OLDFIELD - On August 18th, peacefully at Bedford, East of London, aged 76, devoted and loving wife of the late Wilfred, mother of John and Patricia, mother-in-law of June and Gary and grand-mother of Tracey, Jonathan, William and John. Funeral service on Monday August 24th at 2.30 pm at Woodlands Crematorium, Scarborough. Family flowers only please but donations if desired to the Marie Curie Cancer Care.

PEEL - On August 17th, in London suddenly but very peacefully. Sheila Mary (nee Jackson) aged 76, dearly loved mother of David and Patrick and grandmother of Robert and William. Requiem Mass at 1.10 pm on Friday August 28th at St George's Cathedral, Southwark, Lambeth Road, SE1. Burial at St George's Cemetery, Southwark, London SE16. Flowers by 11 am on August 23rd. Family flowers only please but donations if desired to Age Concern, 15-27 Young Street, London W8 2EH.

DEATHS

KNOWLING - On August 18th, in Eastbourne, Sussex, aged 80, John Roger Knowling, O.B.E., R.N. (Ret'd) in his 80th year, youngest son of the late Captain G.F.S. Knowling R.N. and Mrs D.M. Knowling (née Gibson). Family flowers only please. Donations may be sent to "Palliatum Antiquum" Fund, 80th Avenue, London N16 9JH. Funeral on Tuesday August 25th at 12 noon, Family flowers only.

LEE - On Tuesday August 18th, peacefully in Jersey, and 80, John Roger Knowling, O.B.E., R.N. (Ret'd) in his 80th year, youngest son of the late Captain G.F.S. Knowling R.N. and Mrs D.M. Knowling (née Gibson). Family flowers only please. Donations may be sent to "Palliatum Antiquum" Fund, 80th Avenue, London N16 9JH. Funeral on Tuesday August 25th at 12 noon, Family flowers only.

MUMFORD - On August 17th, at RUMH, London, 11, Simon R.N. aged 30, beloved husband and best friend of Jo, much loved son of Julia and John, brother of Nicola and Tim and son-in-law of Ellen and David. Family flowers only please. Donations may be sent to "Palliatum Antiquum" Fund, 80th Avenue, London N16 9JH. Funeral on Tuesday August 25th at 12 noon, Family flowers only.

MURK - On August 19th, 1992, peacefully at 92 years. Walter, sadly missed by family and many friends. Cremation at Golders Green 10.15 am Monday August 24th. No flowers please.

OLDFIELD - On August 18th, peacefully at Bedford, East of London, aged 76, devoted and loving wife of the late Wilfred, mother of John and Patricia, mother-in-law of June and Gary and grand-mother of Tracey, Jonathan, William and John. Funeral service on Monday August 24th at 2.30 pm at Woodlands Crematorium, Scarborough. Family flowers only please but donations if desired to the Marie Curie Cancer Care.

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ROSE - On August 12th, 1992, very peacefully at St John's Hospice, Grove End Road, Hove, Sussex, daughter of the late Samuel and Frances. Burial at Hove Cemetery, Hove, Sussex, on Monday August 24th at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only please but donations if desired to the Marie Curie Cancer Care.

STOYLE - On August 18th, 1992, Dr. Francis Wilbert Stoyle, M.A., F.R.C.S., F.R.C.P., (Oxon.), F.R.C. (F.P.), in Bangor, Northern Ireland. Devoted husband of the late Mary, mother of John and Gladys. Beloved mother of Hilda and much loved and devoted sister-in-law of June and Gary and grand-mother of Tracey, Jonathan, William and John. Funeral service on Monday August 24th at 2.30 pm at Woodlands Crematorium, Scarborough. Family flowers only please but donations if desired to the Marie Curie Cancer Care.

THOMSON - On August 19th, peacefully at home, Joan Mary, aged 87 years, beloved mother of Jill and Charles, grandmother of Amanda, Clare and Gary. Cremation on Wednesday August 26th at Surrey and Sussex Crematorium, Woking, Surrey, at 1.10 pm. All enquiries please to: (0444) 491160.

DEATHS

POPPER - On August 17th, 1992, peacefully, North Derby, aged 87, widow of Brigadier Eric Popper M.B.E. and very much loved mother of Marianne and John. Burial at St Mary's Church, Julian Road, Bath, followed by cremation at 11.00 am. Donations to British Red Cross Society, Bath, contact tel: (01225) 889102.

WALSH - On August 17th, 1992, Billy Walsh who was the Polo Manager of Harrow Polo Club for nearly forty years and President since 1982. Family flowers only please but donations if desired to the Harrow Polo Club, 100 High Street, Harrow, Middlesex. A Memorial Service will be held at a later date.

WINECH - On August 19th, Olive aged 92 years, of Old Harlow, Essex. Sister to the late Richard and Gladys, cousin to Myrtle, Anne and a very much loved and devoted mother of many nieces and nephews. Burial at Harrow Crematorium, 10 am Wednesday August 26th. Garden flowers and sympathy cards will be appreciated. Contact: (01895) 429990. If desired donations to St John's Hospice, Grove End Road, Hove, Sussex.

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OBITUARIES

VISCOUNT MUIRSHIEL

Viscount Muirshiel, KT, CH, CMG, PC, Secretary of State for Scotland from 1957 to 1962, died on August 17 aged 86. He was born on October 26, 1905.

FEW members of Harold Macmillan's original Cabinet shared John MacLay's record of continuous service. He had been in Parliament since 1940 and, before becoming Secretary of State for Scotland, had held office also as parliamentary secretary to the Ministry of Production, minister of Transport and Civil Aviation and minister of state for the Colonies. His term at the Ministry of Transport was short but arduous, and the strain of re-forming the nationalised system of road transport plus coping with a crisis over London fares proved too much for his never robust health. As a National Liberal he represented Montrose Burghs until his disappearance as a separate constituency in 1950, when he was elected as Liberal and Conservative MP for West Renfrewshire. For some years he was chairman of the Liberal National Parliamentary Group.

The Scottish Office was a testing department for any minister, involving as it did a medley of responsibilities. To a man of MacLay's conscientious and self-critical temperament it presented a particularly formidable challenge which he faced with steady courage. Apart from a complexity of legislative and administrative cares he carried the constant, nagging burden of an unemployment figure well above the average for the United Kingdom. The decline of the traditional industries of coalmining and shipbuilding brought constant anxiety. He set himself, from the first, the task of evolving a new industrial structure for the country. He was tireless in striving to attract fresh enterprises and he had much success in seeking to change the basis of the economy so as to make it less dependent on the older industries. But it was a slow process, beset by many frustrations, and MacLay's efforts were not always recognised.

He was essentially a patient and modest man, but he was not adept at concealing his sensitivity to criticism.



He had weathered many stormy passages over such issues as housing, teachers' pay, pit closures and, of course, unemployment. MacLay could, however, be surprisingly tough when necessary. Everyone recognised his inflexible integrity and his transparent sincerity and fair-mindedness.

John Scott MacLay was the younger son of the first Baron MacLay, who was minister of shipping and a member of the Cabinet in the first world war. MacLay was educated at Winchester and Trinity College,

Cambridge, where he rowed in the winning university crew of 1927. He went into the family shipping business until the outbreak of the second world war when he joined the Royal Artillery, but he was seconded in 1940 for duties at the Ministry of War Transport. He went to Washington to assist Sir Arthur Salter (later Lord Salter) whom he succeeded as head of the British Merchant Shipping Mission. He was made CMG for his services.

Meanwhile, in 1940 he had been returned unopposed as National

Liberal member for Montrose Burghs. Five years later Winston Churchill appointed him parliamentary secretary to the Ministry of Production in the Cretaker Government. From 1947 to 1951 he was chairman of the British committee of the International Chamber of Commerce. MacLay fought hard to prevent the abolition, under the Labour government's Representation of the People Act, of his historic constituency, but he failed, and for personal reasons decided not to stand for the new constituency of South Angus of which Montrose Burghs formed a part. He was returned as a Liberal and Conservative for his home division of West Renfrewshire in October 1951.

In the new Conservative government MacLay became minister of Transport and Civil Aviation. Early in 1952 a crisis arose over increased fares in the London area and this, with the strain of devising constantly changing policies for the denationalisation of road transport, so seriously undermined his health that he had to resign. He spent two months in Scotland recuperating. He was sworn a member of the Privy Council, but it was not until October 1956 that he returned to office as minister of state for the Colonies in the Eden government. When Harold Macmillan formed his administration in January 1957 he chose MacLay to be Secretary of State for Scotland and he held the post for longer than any other minister had previously in its modern form.

It was a formidable assignment. He worked quietly away at measures to revive Scottish industry according to the new structural pattern which he knew was necessary. His method was patient persuasion and encouragement to make the fullest use of the Local Employment Act. He deserves much credit for the number of new factories built in Scotland during his term of office and for the new towns which came into being. He also had the satisfaction of seeing construction undertaken of the Forth and Tay road bridges, the inauguration of the first nuclear power station and of the Glasgow redevelopment plan, the modernisation of the fishing fleet

and important measures of rating reform, hospital building and the liberalisation of the licensing laws.

He was less successful in solving the perennial problem of the Highlands and in making a lasting impression on the hard core of unemployment. He got more blame for his failures than praise for his achievements. He ran into stormy trouble over his refusal in May 1961 to be stamped into hasty action by a strike of teachers, but he inaugurated a useful review of conditions in the profession.

In the same year his housing bill came under heavy Opposition attack. But he endured one of the most uncomfortable half-hours of his political career one afternoon in July 1962 when he had to face the fury of Scottish Labour members over a decision, not of his making, to close more than a score of Scottish coal mines in the ensuing four years. It was MacLay's task to justify the government's plans to alleviate the effects of the closures. It was not the first time he had had to bear the brunt of Opposition clamour, but it was to prove the last. A few days later it was learnt that he had surrendered his office to the prime minister who was engaged in a major reconstruction of his government. It emerged from the exchange of letters that many months earlier MacLay had told Harold Macmillan that for private and family reasons he was beginning to feel the burden of office too heavy. "You have given absolutely of your best," the prime minister wrote, and it was a tribute to which all who knew MacLay would concur. MacLay became a Viscount in the birthday honours list of 1964.

He remained active in business and public affairs. He was chairman of the Joint Exchequer Board for Northern Ireland from 1965 to 1973 and held several directorships of leading companies. He was Lord Lieutenant of Renfrewshire from 1967 to 1980 and chairman of the Scottish Civic Trust from 1967 to 1989.

MacLay married in 1930 Betty L'Estrange Astley, daughter of the late Major Delaval Astley. She died in 1974.

KEITH YEATES

W. Keith Yeates, FRCS, Urologist died on July 26 aged 72. He was born on March 10, 1920.

ALTHOUGH not an "academic" in current parlance Keith Yeates thought constantly about the unsolved problems of urology, developing particular interest in urinary physiology, the mysteries of bladder function, sperm transport and erectile dysfunction. His presidential address to the North of England Surgical Society entitled "Genesis to exodus" summarised his detailed study of human male fertility. In the operating theatre he was one of the last exponents of the Thompson Cold Punch resectoscope for the prostate which was such an effective surgical instrument in its day. Graduating MB, BS from Durham University in 1942 he acquired a training in general surgery on Tyneside and obtained the FRCS and MS (Dunelm) in 1945. Appointed assistant to W. E. M. Wardill in the department of prostatic surgery at Newcastle General Hospital, in 1947 he became senior registrar the following year and, after a period of secondment to St Peter's Hospital, London, he returned as consultant in the newly expanded department of urology at Newcastle General in 1951. Thereafter, for 34 years he cared in a very personal way for the urological ills of patients throughout the northern region.

In 1978 urology in Newcastle moved to the new Freeman Hospital. Uprooted from familiar clinical surroundings Keith Yeates supported the development nonetheless and — thanks to his quiet senior influence and genial, tolerant leadership — ensured the establishment of a specialist urological service that has been the envy of many.

Nationally, he also made a contribution of consequence through his work for the British Association of Urological Surgeons and the British Journal of Urology. He was first elected to the BAUS council in 1959, was president from 1980 to 1982 and served the association in all for 14 years. Following contentious

changes in the accreditation of urologists in training during the mid 1980s he was anxious to emphasise the uniqueness of urology as a surgical specialty and to this end endowed the Yeates medal for the best candidate in the new intercollegiate FRCS (Urol) examination. He joined the *British Journal of Urology* as assistant editor in 1967, was editor from 1973 to 1977, chairman of the editorial committee from 1977 to 1984 and consulting editor until 1990.

In 1983 he was awarded the St Peter's medal, an award for those making "a notable contribution to the advancement of urology".

In his surgery, Yeates was the master of fine detail. In his writing he was a master of the exact phrase. When he spoke in public it was with courtesy, clarity, wit and humour, but each of these attributes came only after many hours of thoughtful, meticulous preparation. Towards those with whom he worked he was always supportive. From all of



his colleagues he drew genuine affection.

When he retired in 1985 he remained on several professional committees and continued to see a few patients; but with retirement came time for six grandchildren, a pied-à-terre in London, frequent trips to Germany, photographs, pictures, evenings of jazz in Jesmond and membership of the Northumberland Committee of the National Art Collections Fund. He is survived by his wife Joy, son Rodney and daughter Deborah.

MARTIN WINSOR

Martin Winsor, folk singer and club organiser, died on August 4 aged 60. He was born on December 6, 1931.

BUSKER, story-teller, coffee-bar manager, professional singer, folk-club organiser, festival director, disc-jockey — there were few things Martin Winsor did not turn his hand to at some point in his colourful career.

He was one of the liveliest — and most popular — singers at the very heart of the folk revival in its formative years during the 1960s. Later he became an influential catalyst for the whole movement as ebullient organiser of the Troubadour, London's most famous folk club over two decades.

Tall, extrovert and not a little intimidating, he had a big, booming baritone voice and a larger-than-life personality to match it. While never technically outstanding — his style was coarse and earthy in comparison with many of the celebrated musicians he helped inspire — he compensated with a depth of musical knowledge and an enthusiasm for performing that was virtually unrivalled at the time. His boundless repertoire encompassed every conceivable area of folk music, from traditional jazz and authentic blues to musical hall songs, sea shanties and ballads; and his eagerness to sing them all any time anywhere made him a front-line performer as well as an important source of material for young singers.

He was already a well-known Soho character when he found a spiritual home in the emergent folk clubs in the early



1960s. He had a long succession of short-lived jobs, from chef to street trader, before working in the coffee bars which gave rise to the skiffle boom of the late 50s.

Typically, Winsor threw himself wholeheartedly into this makeshift new music, joining a skiffle band with John Hasted and Redd Sullivan and making himself an indispensable part of the rather more serious folk scene that followed it. He and Redd Sullivan, who died less than three

months ago, continued to work together for more than 15 years, delighting — and sometimes appalling — audiences around the folk circuit with their brash, bohemian approach.

It was an attitude that also gave Winsor some notoriety throughout his long tenure as host at the Troubadour. Bob Dylan, Paul Simon, Alf Stewart and Roy Harper were among the superstars who cut their teeth at the Troubadour, but nobody received any favours from Winsor; however big the name, and many delicate egos were manhandled by his robust humour. His scathing disregard for reputations and general outspokenness caused him to fall out with some of the more precious echelons of the folk hierarchy, and he never received the respect admirers felt he merited.

However, he did successfully run the Loughborough Folk Festival — the English Folk Dance and Song Society's traditional music flag-ship — for several years during the Seventies and Eighties and more recently he turned to radio as a late-night personality presenter on London's Capital Radio. He also received much acclaim on his reappearance as a performer singing "Norwich Gail" in the role of a convict in Peter Bellamy's ballad opera *The Transports*.

A few years ago he left his beloved London to live in Lincolnshire and at the time of his death he was helping to put together a memorial concert for his great friend and partner Redd Sullivan.

He leaves his wife and singing partner Jeannie.

LINDA LAUBENSTEIN

Linda J. Laubenstein, New York physician who identified the first known cases of AIDS and forecast the epidemic to come, died on August 15 in Cape Cod aged 45. She was born in Boston, Mass., on May 21, 1947.

IN 1981 Linda Laubenstein wrote the first paper to be published in a medical journal on the alarming appearance of Kaposi's sarcoma, a previously rare disease involving lesions of the skin and other tissues. She recalled treating a 33-year-old male with two purple spots behind his ears. Initially he responded to the cancer drugs she prescribed, but 18 months later he was dead, his body covered with 75 lesions. Laubenstein noted that this, and other cases she described, appeared to involve young male homosexuals suffering an inexplicable collapse of the immune system. AIDS had arrived.

By the following May, 1982, Laubenstein had seen 62 patients with AIDS — one quarter of the national total recorded at this time. She was quoted as saying "this problem certainly is not going away", and her private practice in Manhattan began to be devoted almost entirely to treatment of the new disease.

Linda Laubenstein was herself a paraplegic, confined to a wheelchair from the age of five after suffering from poliomyelitis. She was also severely asthmatic, but despite these handicaps she threw herself wholeheartedly into the battle against AIDS, often meeting

patients in the emergency room in the middle of the night, and even making house calls in her motorised wheelchair. "She was sicker than most of her patients," said a colleague, Dr. Jeffrey Greene, "but she didn't let it stop her." Concerned that AIDS patients often lost their jobs, and believing that work was vital to their emotional and physical health as well as providing income, Laubenstein joined Dr. Greene in 1989 to found "Multi-tasking". This is a non-profit organisation selling office services to businesses which employed people with AIDS among its workers. She also helped to found the Kaposi's Sarcoma Research Fund in 1983, and to set up the first full-scale medical conference on AIDS at New York University.

Linda Laubenstein achieved a good deal of notoriety through her outspoken criticism of what she saw as neglect of the AIDS epidemic by the United States government and society at large. But some of her views were also considered controversial among homosexual groups, especially her belief that bathhouses should be shut down to discourage unsafe sex. She achieved theatrical fame by becoming the model for the leading character in one of the first Broadway plays about AIDS, Larry Kramer's *The Normal Heart*. A film version, with Barbra Streisand in the Laubenstein role, is reported to be in the planning stage.

Linda Laubenstein is survived by her parents and one brother.

APPRECIATION

Anthony McNulty

THERE is one thing not included in your admirable obituary of Anthony McNulty (August 18). His most important contribution to international co-operation was his 15-year secretaryship of the Human Rights Commission in Strasbourg. To him fell the decisions as to whether petitions should be referred to the European Court or not. His decisions were important.

More than one European state had to change clauses in their constitutions because of his decision, and the UK had to submit its police procedures in Northern Ireland and to alter them.

For this work he was appointed CBE after his retirement, a signal and seldom honour by the British Government for work with an international organisation.

Sir Anthony Kershaw

August 21 ON THIS DAY 1909

The public crowded in to hear the challenge to the Lord Chamberlain in his role as censor of plays. *Walden*, The Times dramatic critic, found reason for censorship. — Yes, I should roughly say there are two public, the enlightened public, the public who are interested in advanced ideas, and the general public. Even with the present Censorship means exist for the special public to see plays that the Censor bans. Possibly all the plays mentioned before this Committee as having been banned have been seen by the special public who wanted to see them. I myself have seen practically all of them. The plain man among the authors, or those who live by catering for the plain man, are not averse from him.

DRAMATIC CENSORSHIP.

The Joint Committee of the two Houses of Parliament heard further evidence yesterday on the question of the Dramatic Censorship. Mr. HERBERT SAMUEL presiding. The witnesses examined in the course of the sitting included Mr. A.B. Walkley and Professor Gilbert Murray, Regius Professor of Greek at Oxford University.

MR. WALKLEY

Mr. A.B. WALKLEY was the first witness, and, being asked to state his views on the subject, said: "The performance of a stage-play, open to any one on payment at the door, is a public act; and, like any other public act, it comes properly and necessarily within the cognizance of the state. How shall the State take cognizance? Before or after the event? If the stage-play contains elements of offence to morality, religion, public order, or whatever else the State may desire to protect, then interference with it after public performance would be only partly effectual. Some part at least of the offence would have arisen: a scandal would have been created. And the very fact of interference with an offensive play after performance would advertise the offence. That is the primary justification for a preventive Censorship of stage-plays."

THE CHAIRMAN.—Do you consider the man in the street is entitled to prevent others from seeing serious drama? I think the Censor, representing the

man in the street, has to consider the general interest of the majority at large.

Are there not several theatre-going publics with different characteristics, and that the theatre-going public which goes to high musical comedies is a different public from that which would go to the Vedettes-Barker performances? — Yes, I should roughly say there are two public, the enlightened public, the public who are interested in advanced ideas, and the general public. Even with the present Censorship means exist for the special public to see plays that the Censor bans. Possibly all the plays mentioned before this Committee as having been banned have been seen by the special public who wanted to see them. I myself have seen practically all of them. The plain man among the authors, or those who live by catering for the plain man, are not averse from him.

The objection comes from a few "advanced" authors, pioneers, experimenters, or types of the pure literary temperament. They say the Censor is out of sympathy with them, does not understand them, and they are right. What really irks them is to be interfered with by the plain man. Not that they would be satisfied with a literary Censor, a Censor in full sympathy with their own temperament and ideals. They claim entire freedom from preventive control; and that claim, if the considerations I have advanced are sound, cannot be entertained by the State.

PROFESSOR MURRAY Professor Gilbert Murray, Regius Professor of Greek in the University of Oxford and member of the council of the Stage Society, expressed a strong opinion that on principle the Censorship was totally indefensible and even absurd. No other art was subjected to the like restriction; and he could not see that the reasons alleged for it were really valid. He agreed in general with what Mr. Walkley and other witnesses had said, but deduced therefrom rather the opposite conclusions...

Recession stops Japanese takeaway of mansion

By KERRY GILL

THE family seat of the earls of Minto, remodelled in neo-classical style by William Adam during the early years of the 19th century, will be demolished at the end of this month. A deal to ship it stone by stone to Japan has fallen through.

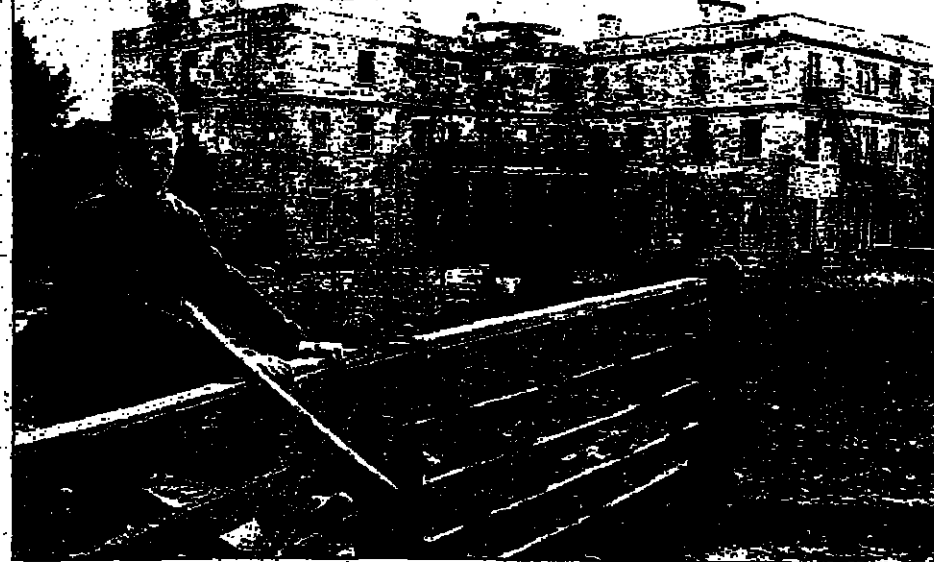
The Borders mansion, which fell into decay about 20 years ago, was to have been rebuilt as a country club on the Japanese island of Kyushu. But yesterday Douglas Connell, the sixth Earl of Minto's lawyer, said the Japanese consortium had pulled out of the enterprise because it was considered too costly in a time of recession.

Mr Connell said: "The Earl of Minto has been advised by the Japanese developers that they cannot proceed with the project at the present time. This decision has been reached due to the present economic climate in Japan. Due to the condition of the building steps are being taken

to preserve such stones suitable for preservation and the remaining structure will be demolished." He added that he had issued instructions for the demolition work to begin before the end of this month.

Minto House, near Hawick in the Scottish borders, was remodelled in an unusual V-shaped plan with a central dome and colonnaded porch from 1809 to 1814. During the second world war it was used as a hospital and became a girls' school from 1952 until 1969. However, the condition of the house had deteriorated so much that the family obtained a demolition order in 1970 although the work was never carried out. Its listed building status lapsed and it is now a derelict shell.

The Japanese consortium approached Mr Connell looking for an historic castle. At the time he did not appreciate that the Japanese wanted one to take with them. Lord Minto said: "They did a great deal of work on a feasibility study and until the financial implica-



Derelict Minto House decayed so much it lost its listed building status

tions of the recession hit them I had every reason to suppose the scheme would go ahead." He said that it would be sad to see the end of Minto House, last occupied by the family in 1944. "I suppose demolition will be a form of euthanasia."

The house's demolition will upset conservationists, who are angry that it was allowed to deteriorate to the stage where listed building status was withdrawn. Minto House, which has 64 bedrooms and 11 bathrooms, was

highlighted by the Scottish Civic Trust in its "buildings at risk" bulletin. Several years ago another Japanese consortium removed Miln Lockart, a Lanarkshire house dating from 1840s to the Far East. It is still in packing cases.

Latest wills

Mr Bernard Michael Falk, of London SW6, the journalist and broadcaster, left estate valued at £224,123 gross, nil net.

Mr John James Byam Shaw, of London N3, the art historian, left estate valued at £601,744 net.

Mr Rowland Arthur Marriott, of Cotesbach Hall, Cotesbach, the Leicestershire squire who in the second world war was a major in the Intelligence Corps, worked for M15 and stayed on afterwards with M16, left estate valued at £228,750 net.

Mr David Michael Cospatrik Elphinstone-Scott, of Eydon, Northamptonshire, left estate valued at £181,382 net. He left a sum of £100,000 to the cost of 1,000 75 centilitre bottles of Gordon's gin as priced at the Army and Navy Stores at his death to Michael Jarvis, of London NW5.

Other estates (net before tax) include: Mr Clifford Bowcott Playle, of Littleton, Cambridge-shire, £1,459,864.

Car builders urged to reuse mountains of scrap vehicles

By KEVIN EASON, MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

CAR manufacturers were urged yesterday to set up "disassembly lines" to recycle scrapped cars. A report from Coopers & Lybrand says that the 13 million cars scrapped annually in Europe, including about 1.3 million in Britain, are creating a mountain of polluting waste plastics, rubber, oils and glass.

The accountants are critical that the industry, from component suppliers to vehicle manufacturers, has not yet agreed a single policy for tackling a problem which will

be one of the most important issues of the decade. "There is no consensus and, worse still, no vehicle for reaching a consensus on the best way forward. The bottom line is that, one way or another, it is the consumer who will have to pay," the report says.

The company recommends a consortium of manufacturers which could formulate plans for "disassembly lines", using the best environmental methods. "Motor manufacturers and component suppliers should rapidly phase out the use of materials and production processes which hinder rather than help the effective dismantling, recycling and disposal of vehicles," it adds.

The recommendation echoes suggestions by the Rover Group, which is involved in Britain's biggest car recycling study. Rover and the Bird Group, one of Europe's biggest car recycling companies, are working on a £1 million scheme to discover how easy it is to strip and recycle cars. The company is already convinced that action by individual manufacturers will not be enough and has told the environment department that there should be a series of national recycling centres used by all car companies.

Top A-level passes set record

Continued from page 1

allowed to those who missed universities' target grades. The high performance at A level is also likely to reduce the number of places available through the clearing process, which begins next week. Vacancies will be hard to find on arts and social science courses, but more plentiful in science and technology.

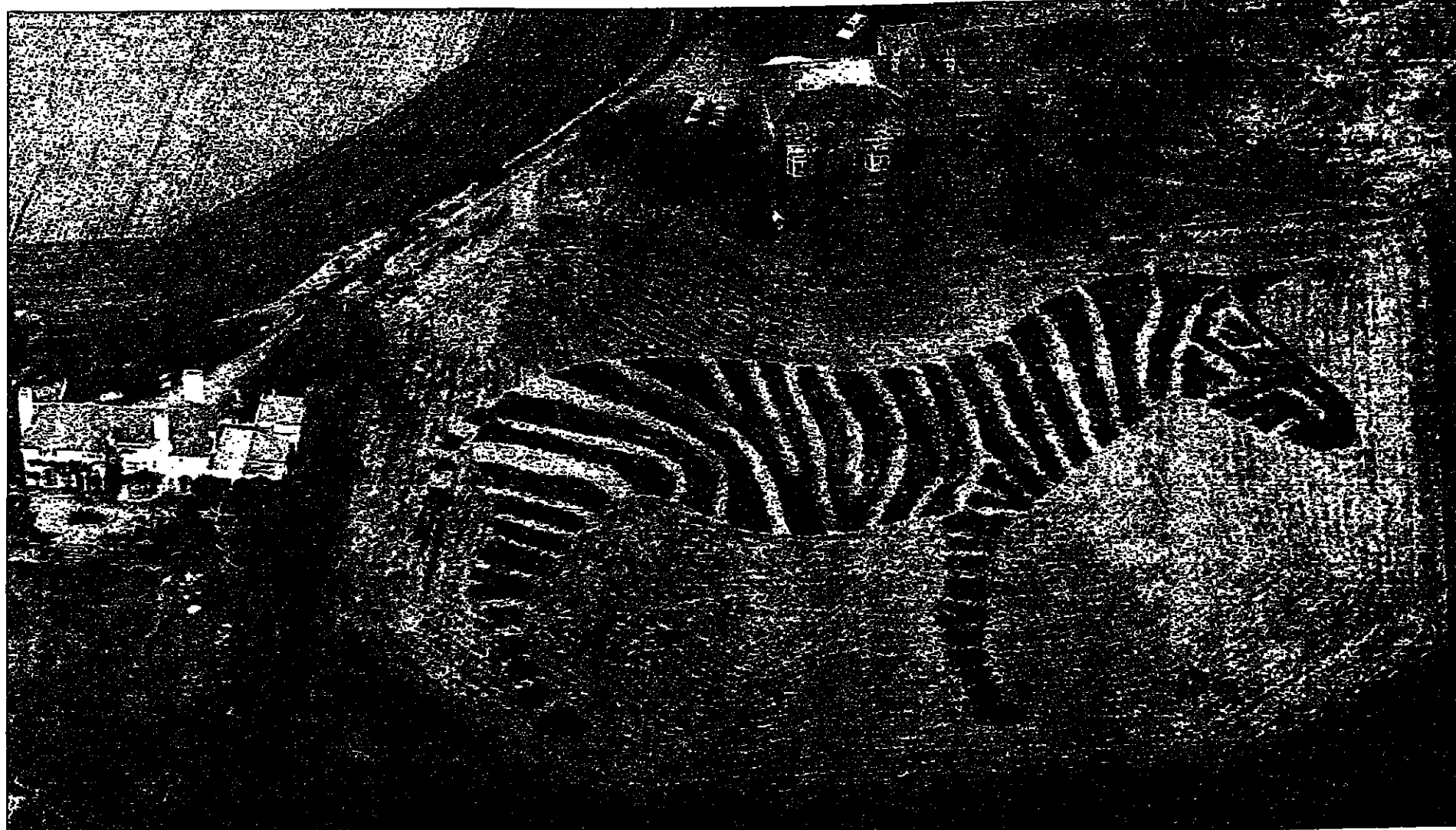
Universities will admit another record number of students in the autumn, edging closer to the government's target of one in three school-leavers going into higher education. Applications are up by more than 12 per cent.

Ted Nield, the vice-chancellor's spokesman, said: "Everybody who has been promised a place will get one." He advised those intent on getting to university to avoid popular arts and social sciences subjects. "The numbers doing science have gone down and the competition is much lower than for anything else." The Committee of Directors of Polytechnics, which represents the new universities, was equally confident that extra places would be found.

Applicants from Northern Ireland added to the pressure on places with A-level pass rate of 85 per cent again outstripping that in England and Wales.

Top state schools, page 2

Motoring Times, L&T section, page 7



Field day: Simon English, an artist at Stratford-upon-Avon, used the last summer when farmers are allowed to burn stubble to create a 90 metre zebra. He raked ungathered hay into strips and laid black plastic between to bleach the grass. This produced a negative image, reversed when the hay was set on fire

Nato scales down Bosnia plans

Continued from page 1

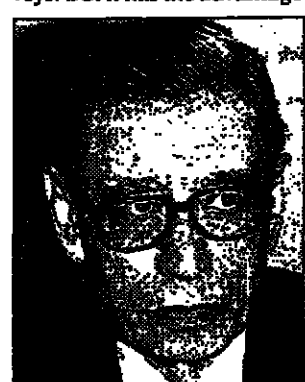
be the most realistic. Some military officials are arguing that just a few thousand lightly armed soldiers without such capabilities could be an invitation to Serb, Muslim or other groups to attack and that they might take heavy casualties without proper protection.

Officials say that little more than a company — about 150 men — in well chosen positions and with the right weapons would be able to pin down a big convoy on the road that winds through wooded hills from Split to Sarajevo.

Diplomats say that a large force was never politically feasible, principally because the United States, Nato's senior member, has not been prepared to commit ground troops. Although Nato and the Western European Union are drawing up the military plans, diplomats say that any operation will be carried out under United Nations command and not by either of the major European de-

fence organisations. "By doing it under UN command, we avoid any appearance of military aggression that the name Nato might conjure up and we do not compromise the safety of thousands of UN peacekeepers who are in Yugoslavia," one diplomat said.

There are two possible routes for aid convoys travelling from Split to Sarajevo. The northern route is narrow and twisting; too narrow perhaps for heavy convoys. But it has the advantage



Boutros Ghali: will be at London conference

of avoiding most Serb-controlled areas. The route is Split-Sinj-Vukovar-Zenica. The second, preferred, route runs down the Croatian coast and cuts into Mostar which is firmly in Croatian hands. The convoys would then have to go through what United Nations officers call "bandit country": Serb strongholds. The road is exposed, but it runs in parallel to a useful railway line. Obviously, key bridges could be destroyed and artillery reinforcements would be able to wreak havoc.

Nato therefore will be seeking promises of free passage from all the participants at the London peace conference next week. Boutros Ghali, the UN secretary-general, announced yesterday that he would attend the conference. Final details of the Nato blueprint should be ready on Monday.

New link: The Vatican said yesterday that it is to establish full diplomatic relations with Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Flawed offer, page 7
TV and Croatia, page 10
Letters, page 11

Queen leads condemnation of newspaper photographs

Continued from page 1

er because they have had no complaint," a spokesman said. The newspaper industry's voluntary code precludes invasion of privacy unless it is in the public interest. Lord McGregor of Durris, chairman of the commission, said on BBC radio yesterday that he would strongly resist calls for a tightening-up of the law on privacy.

"Every body which has discussed such a law has recommended against it precisely because the advantage of protecting the privacy of private persons will inevitably result in protecting the misbehaviour of public persons," Lord McGregor said.

Richard Stott, editor of the *Mirror*, yesterday defended his decision to publish the pictures, spread over seven pages. A leading article in the newspaper said that the photographs stripped away "all the lies, humbug and hypocrisy that have surrounded the duchess's relationship with Mr Bryan".

The American had frequently given interviews claiming the Duke and Duchess of York only needed time to work out a reconciliation, and that he was merely the duchess's financial adviser with a purely professional interest. He added that it was nonsense to suggest that photographs that would be seen by millions of people all over the world should be banned from publication in Britain, the home of the royal family.

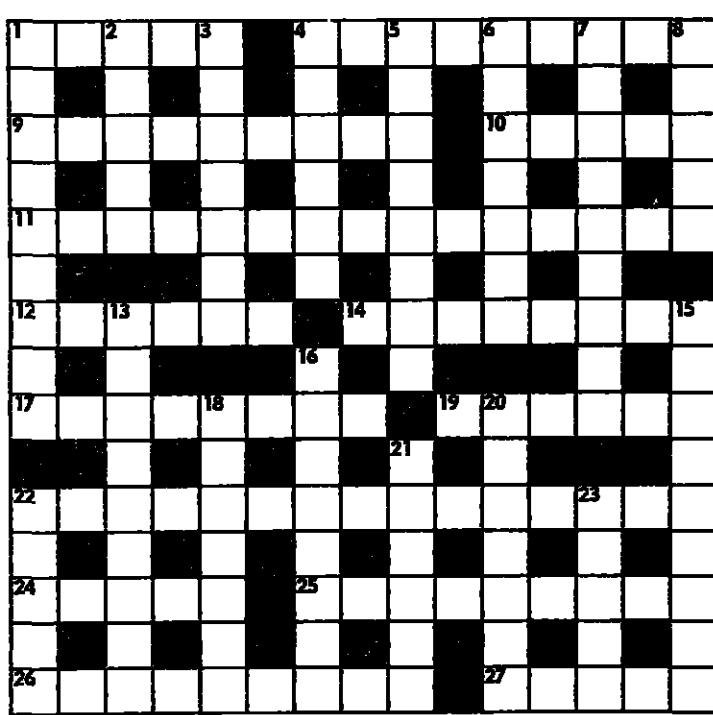
Mirror Group Newspapers confirmed that, after selling out a print run of 3.5 million copies by 9am yesterday, they had printed an extra 80,000 to satisfy demand. Royalists roundly condemned the pictures, one of which showed Mr Bryan sucking the duchess's toe. Lord St John of Fawley said that the intrusion into the duchess's privacy would be intolerable even for a private citizen, and that the incident was another milestone on the road to introducing a general right of privacy which would

benefit all citizens. Nicholas Winterton, MP, chairman of the Commons all-party media committee, said the pictures appeared to be a flagrant breach of privacy, but they should not prompt calls for a legal clampdown; the only way forward was self-regulation by newspapers, overseen by the Press Complaints Commission. People in public life had to recognise that their behaviour was of public interest, and should act accordingly.

Dame Jill Knight, Conservative MP for Birmingham Edgbaston, said that by publishing such photographs the press was chipping away at a person's right to a private life, but added: "I think Fergie frankly is an utter disaster from start to finish, and was never going to make a member of the royal family. I think the British public have known this for some time."

Privacy law rejected, page 3
Royal problems, page 10
Leading article, page 11

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,003



ACROSS

- Sounds like tea produced by a lace-worker (5).
- Pub manager shot outside tower (9).
- Agreement to incorporate new ribbon fabric in outdoor garment (9).
- The Kid's cooking-pot (5).
- Island area a dodo ravaged, finishing up like this (4,2,1,8).
- It's deepest for a short time during the current month (6).
- Completely destroy his model when in a frenzy (8).
- Fall short by twenty-four hours, alas (8).
- Cricketer making the drink available (6).
- Verbal blunder makes us almost discard the language (4,2,3,5).
- He made violins in the morning, very early (5).
- An ample lady, Mrs Sullen's mother-in-law (9).

DOWN

- A workman might do so when going away for punishment (4,5).
- Conservative woman's bloomer (5).
- About the beginning of the year, arrange rises for hard workers (7).
- National Assistance set-up in fashionable quarter (6).
- Gas briefly identified in the Norwegian capital (8).
- I include many a pub in the ban (7).
- Friend introducing two boys to a style of architecture (9).
- Sail worthy of a king (5).
- Pal involved in ship's officer's plot (9).
- Rowdy behaviour in Arab district (9).
- Cut up board fit only for the scrap-heap (8).
- Rain god improper for worshipping (7).
- Planner's fiddle takes in novice (7).
- Old gold coin sewn onto dress (6).
- Plaque produced by council leader in a Manchester suburb (5).
- Blunder involving a bunch of keys (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 19,002

SHIPYARD L A G
E A N EXAMINER
C R A N I X W A N O
I T I M O T H Y G R A S S
T E A R T I S T B
M A S C O T A I R E D A L E
G E N E R A L I A
D E A N E R Y C H I N O O K
O I A G A G V
W A T C H D O G S Y S T E M
N O N O T C R
F R E N C H P O L I S H A
A R L U N
L E G A T I O N G O
L O A D I S C L O S E

Concise Crossword, page 9
Life & Times section

WORD WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which definitions are correct?
By Philip Howard

- SLYPE**
a. A police informer
b. To cut kay
c. A narrow passage
- GRUMMELS**
a. Scoldings
b. Chick-peas
c. New boys at Harrow
- ARGILLACEOUS**
a. Externally vigilant
b. Bad-tempered
c. Clayey
- ROTURIER**
a. A roll of coins
b. Carling tongs
c. A medicinal connoisseur

Answers on page 12

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadwork information, 24 hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE	731
C London (within N & S Crcs)	732
M-ways/roads M4-M1	733
M-ways/roads M1-Carlisle T	734
M-ways/roads Carlisle T-M23	735
M-ways/roads M23-M4	736
M25 London Orbital only	737
National	738
National motorways	739
Wales	740
Midlands	741
East Angles	742
North-west England	743
North-east England	744
Scotland	745
Northern Ireland	746

AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

WEATHER

Southern parts will have a bright day with a fair amount of sunshine although there may be isolated showers during the afternoon. In the west, there may be more organised shower development later. Further north, any early brightness will be replaced with cloud and light rain. Early cloud and rain over Scotland and Northern Ireland will clear to leave a day of sunny spells and showers. Outlook: continuing unsettled.

MIDDAY: 1st number: d-d; 2nd: 1p-1p; 3rd: 2p-2p; 4th: 3p-3p; 5th: 4p-4p; 6th: 5p-5p; 7th: 6p-6p; 8th: 7p-7p; 9th: 8p-8p; 10th: 9p-9p; 11th: 10p-10p; 12th: 11p-11p; 13th: 12p-12p; 14th: 1p-1p; 15th: 2p-2p; 16th: 3p-3p; 17th: 4p-4p; 18th: 5p-5p; 19th: 6p-6p; 20th: 7p-7p; 21st: 8p-8p; 22nd: 9p-9p; 23rd: 10p-10p; 24th: 11p-11p; 25th: 12p-12p; 26th: 1p-1p; 27th: 2p-2p; 28th: 3p-3p; 29th: 4p-4p; 30th: 5p-5p; 31st: 6p-6p; 32nd: 7p-7p; 33rd: 8p-8p; 34th: 9p-9p; 35th: 10p-10p; 36th: 11p-11p; 37th: 12p-12p; 38th: 1p-1p; 39th: 2p-2p; 40th: 3p-3p; 41st: 4p-4p; 42nd: 5p-5p; 43rd: 6p-6p; 44th: 7p-7p; 45th: 8p-8p; 46th: 9p-9p; 47th: 10p-10p; 48th: 11p-11p; 49th: 12p-12p; 50th: 1p-1p; 51st: 2p-2p; 52nd: 3p-3p; 53rd: 4p-4p; 54th: 5p-5p; 55th: 6p-6p; 56th: 7p-7p; 57th: 8p-8p; 58th: 9p-9p; 59th: 10p-10p; 60th: 11p-11p; 61st: 12p-12p; 62nd: 1p-1p; 63rd: 2p-2p; 64th: 3p-3p; 65th: 4p-4p; 66th: 5p-5p; 67th: 6p-6p; 68th: 7p-7p; 69th: 8p-8p; 70th: 9p-9p; 71st: 10p-10p; 72nd: 11p-11p; 73rd: 12p-12p; 74th: 1p-1p; 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Economic figures give encouragement

Pound falls to lowest since joining ERM

BY ANATOLE KALETSKY AND WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU

STERLING fell to its lowest against the German mark since Britain joined the European exchange-rate mechanism, triggering an immediate trigger signal under the ERM rules.

The dollar also fell to within a hair's breadth of its all-time lows against the mark, as government-subsidised lending to eastern Germany continued to underpin the growth of the German money supply and investors bailed out of other ERM currencies in advance of the French referendum.

The pound fell in response to the German figures, despite a number of mildly encouraging British statistics. Capital spending by manufacturers increased in the second quarter, while stockbuilding in the economy fell sharply. The growth of Britain's money supply and bank lending in July was also above City expectations.

However, foreign exchange markets shrugged off these figures and concentrated instead on the announcement that Germany's M3 money supply measure was still growing at an annual rate of 8.6 per cent in July, fractionalised down from June's 8.7 per cent. The money supply figures remained far outside the Bundesbank's target range of 3.5 to 5.5 per cent, and although the German central bank decided not to change its interest rates at yesterday's council meeting, hopes of a pause in the drive continued to push the mark down, especially against the dollar and pound.

As well as hitting a new closing low of just under DM2.81, sterling breached the 75 per cent limit on the mechanism's divergence indicator for the first time since ERM entry. The indicator is designed to reflect each member currency's relative strength or weakness and the ERM

rules stipulate a "presumption" that any country that moves beyond the 75 per cent limit will change its policies to bring its currency back into line. A few currency traders suggested that the rise in the dollar indicator could signal the need for a rise in British interest rates, although most analysts said the indicator was a technicality of little interest to the market.

Government officials endorsed this relaxed view, and there was no sign of Bank of England intervention. Officials said there would be no change in the British rate of interest unless and until the pound was threatening to breach its lower limit of DM2.7780 against the mark.

Several leading analysts said the British government was right not to panic, but that pressures on sterling might continue to build up on the weeks ahead. "People in the market attach no significance



Game strategy: Michael Bucher, left, managing director of JW Spear, with Paul Lipscomb, group finance director

Treasury to auction £1 bn of privatised company debt

BY GRAHAM SEARJEANT, FINANCIAL EDITOR

THE government plans to raise £1 billion this autumn towards its £8 billion target for the sale of the privatised BT and its subsidiaries. By making bids to redeem their medium and long-term debts to the Treasury. The government is owed £3.7 billion in total repayable after 1996 and further redemptions or sales to third party investors are likely in the next two years.

In the absence of big new privatisations, this year's asset sale target will be met almost entirely from debt repayments and the later instalments on share sales made previously, particularly last autumn's sale of part of the government's remaining holding of BT shares. Normal repayments of short-term debt by British Gas, BT and Scottish Electricity will contribute a further £570 million in addition to the plans announced yesterday.

In an auction to be conducted by Baring Brothers, which has devised the complex sale scheme for the government, banks and institutional investors will also be invited to bid for ten-year gilts. BT uncured loan stocks amounting to a nominal £1.7 billion in competition with BT itself. BT had no comment on the plan.

The government is contracted not to sell any of the 19

tion. It will set minimum benchmark prices for each of the electricity stocks in a month's time. The companies that bid most for their own stocks relative to the benchmark price will win.

They will also compete with a second pool, in which BT will vie with bond dealers and big investors in an even more convoluted competition fe-

ASSET SALES

	£ million
Redemption of BT and electricity debt	1,000
BT II share sale	1,915
BT II third instalment	1,875
Scottish electricity sale second instalment	835
Electricity companies sale second instalment	1,465
Debt repayments and small sales	c1,110
Planned total	8,000

turing two benchmark prices for each stock. BT would not be expected to pay as much as third party investors because it would pay more tax by redeeming its stock. The premium it paid for redemption would not be tax-deductible as are the above-market interest payments it now makes.

The sale is likely to be particularly attractive to regional electricity companies, whose cash flow is buoyant. As an added incentive, the benchmark prices for their stocks will also be adjusted for tax, but this allowance might not be made in later auctions if they failed to buy this time.

Apart from BT, the biggest debts involved are £450 million owed by the National Grid company, £350 million by National Power and £282 million by Scottish Power. There will be no opportunity for private investors to buy directly since bids must be for complete tranches of stock. The smallest BT loan is £130 million and the smallest electricity loan £20 million.

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Losses are cut at JW Spear.

BY OUR CITY STAFF

EXPORTING has proved tough for JW Spear, the games maker that includes Scrabble in its range.

Sales settled back in Holland, Germany and Austria where Spear has been making inroads, and France provided a lacklustre market place for traditional toys and games, because of a doubling of video games sales there. Export turnover fell 1 per cent.

However, the pre-tax loss in the normally quiet first half was cut to £15,000 in the half to June 26, against a loss of £63,000 in 1991.

Turnover was down a fraction, from £8.4 million to £8.3 million. The loss per share was trimmed from 8.19p to 5.78p and the interest bill was cut from £125,000 to £5,000.

Francis Spear, chairman, described the figures as satisfactory and said orders were currently ahead of last year. He raised the interim dividend from 2p to 2.5p.

Spear shares are traded on the stock exchange bulletin board for rarely traded shares. The last deal was at 343p on July 27.

World economic mood lightens

BY GEORGE SIVELL

BUSINESS optimism in America has increased sharply, expectations in Europe remain mixed, but the Japanese are still pessimistic, according to a worldwide survey by Dun & Bradstreet.

The survey of 11,000 executives in 15 countries points to a slight overall improvement in expectations for sales and profits in the third quarter, after a sharp increase in the second.

"The current surveys are in line with forecasts for a subdued global economic recovery this year," Joseph W. Duncan, vice-president and corporate economist at Dun & Bradstreet said.

"In sharp contrast to a year ago, the US is the driving force behind the increases in optimism: worldwide. Indeed, many countries are looking to the US to... fuel the global economic recovery." In America, business expectations of a higher third-quarter sales rose sharply to their highest for three years.

Mr. Duncan said recovery was reflected in American order books: "Every industry

sector and nearly every American census region expected stronger sales in the third quarter."

In Japan, however, more executives expect decreases than expect increases in third-quarter sales and profits. "Following a sharp decline in optimism during the second quarter, executives are still not anticipating any significant growth to occur in the third quarter," Dunn & Bradstreet says.

In Britain, it reports, "the outlook for sales moved slightly higher but expectations for higher profits tumbled. The results suggest that while the British economy has shown some improvement in the past few months, many executives are not expecting to make further headway in the third quarter."

Optimism in Germany fell in the third quarter after rising sharply in the second. Across Europe, results were mixed. Expectations of higher third-quarter sales increased sharply in Italy but fell in Austria, Belgium and the Netherlands.

However, on the economic front the news was generally better. The most unexpected news was the sharp reduction in stocks held by retailers and wholesalers in the second quarter. Retail stocks fell £415 million against a rise of £416 million in the first quarter, while wholesale stocks fell £492 million, compared with a £105 million decline. Manufacturers' stocks also declined, by £186 million, compared with £696 million in the first quarter.

The 3 per cent increase in manufacturing investment was also encouraging, with small rises in most categories of capital spending. However, investment in the second quarter was still 3 per cent down on the first.

The money supply, as measured by the seasonally adjusted M0 figures, rose 2.4 per cent in the year to July, up from 1.8 per cent June. Lending by banks and building societies was £2.8 billion, compared with £2.5 billion in June and above the average over the past six months.

Willis Corroon deepens gloom

BY JONATHAN PRYNN, INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

WILLIS Corroon, the Anglo American insurance broking group, has provided another setback for the broking sector with half-year profits well below market expectations. Shares in the sector were marked down once again, with Willis shares falling 16p to 170p.

However, Willis has said that it will hold its dividend for the year at the 1991 level of 13.2p. In a joint statement, Roger Elliott, the executive chairman, and Richard Miller, the chief executive, said: "As a result of world

Insurance and financial market factors, together with the cost of our long term investments, our 1992 profits will be below those achieved in 1991.

"However, whilst current trading is difficult, the board has confidence in the company's long term strategy and intends to declare maintained quarterly dividends for the current financial year."

Profits before tax for the six months to end June fell 22 per cent from £69.4 million to £54.1 million. Earnings per share were down 24 per cent to 8.3p and the dividend for

the half year is a maintained 6.6p. The company has declared a third quarter dividend of 3.3p, unchanged on last year.

- Brokerage and fee revenue in the first half was up 5 per cent at £300.8 million, but if the effect of new operations is stripped out, the underlying revenue was unchanged. Operating profits from broking activities fell from £68.2 million to £47 million, while underwriting profits rose from £0.5 million to £5.8 million.

Tempus, page 18

BT lines kept busy by staff hanging up

By RODNEY HOESON

REDUNDANCY applications were moving a little slowly at BT, where 20,500 jobs had to go. So a sweeterener was added: anyone who applied right away could have an extra three months' salary on top of the redundancy terms.

And that is how 46,000 staff came to say: "Ma, please."

The telecommunications company finally decided to cut staff by 29,500 under its Release '92 programme, still leaving more than 16,000 employees - to contemplate their futures instead of their *marrows*.

They watched 19,480 of their colleagues go on July 31 alone. Already this year 24,000 chairs have been vacated. Another 10,000, perhaps even 15,000, will be pruned next year through



**"For the last time — no
you can't have
early retirement"**

**natural wastage and voluntary
redundancy, and a similar
number will say goodbye
in 1994.**

Peter Archer, director of

The July 31 exodus "I don't think you will find that number leaving any other company at one go. It was an enormous logistical exercise with pensions to be sorted out, farewell gifts to be bought and retirement cards to be written."

A special department had to be set up to calculate the pensions: entitlements of 66,000 employees who showed interest in leaving. Apparently, 20,000 decided they would not have enough to live on and backed down without formally applying.

Mukry took an early retirement. BT's normal retirement age is 60, but 10,000 people aged 50-59 hung up their handsets. Another 4,000 were aged over 45 and will be able to take an early pension at 50.

BT has shunned down from about 240,000 employees at

166,000 at the end of this year. Job cuts this time were across the board, although in future redundancies will be concentrated in specific areas such as telephone operators. BT parted with 4,300 managers, all earning more than £20,000 a year and a lucky few on £100,000. A similar number went from the clerical side, 5,600 operators were unemployed and 12,300 technicians disappeared.

Subscribers will be pleased to hear that one department is not prepared to entertain redundancy applications: customer reception. Those are the people who check queries on bills or who arrange for numbers to be transferred when a subscriber moves house. Mr Archer says: "We have spent too much money on training them to let them go."

YOU

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in Swiss Francs

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"B.I.A." is a well known Swiss investment company, and its scheme is recognised by the UK Securities and Investments Board, listed on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange, and authorised in Hong Kong.

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Further details are available to investors and advisers from B.I.A.'s representatives, International Investment Consultants Ltd., who have approved this advertisement.

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Telephone: 071-638 2540 or 071-588 1932. Fax: 071-628 2472.

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● PRODUCTION OPERATIONS LINE TRAINER

- HDN/HNC qualified
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- Comprehensive background in process/production methods

● SENIOR SAFETY TRAINER

- HNC in engineering discipline
- Minimum 5 years experience in safety/fire engineering within the oil and gas industry both on and offshore
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- Familiar with API 1104, ANSI B31.3 and ANSI B31.8

● CRANE BARGE FIELD ENGINEER

- HND Mechanical Engineering or equivalent
- 5-10 years experience in offshore construction to include jacket and pipeline installation and hook-up work
- Knowledge of marine operations is essential
- 7/7 rotation

● DEPUTY BARGE SUPERINTENDANT

- Minimum HND in Mechanical or Structural Engineering
- Minimum 12 years experience in construction and maintenance of offshore facilities
- Knowledge of marine operations is essential
- 7/7 rotation

● SECTION HEAD WORKBOAT OPERATIONS

- Degree qualified or equivalent marine qualification
- Marine engineer background
- 10 years experience with workboat/barge operations on construction/maintenance within the oil and gas industry

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- 7/7 rotation

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ADMINISTRATORS ON TEMPORARY CONTRACT

DIRECTORATE GENERAL EXTERNAL RELATIONS

● HIGHLY QUALIFIED ADMINISTRATOR (A5/A4) - ref. 57/T/92/1

Field: commercial policy
Duties: assisting with implementation of the common commercial policy, with particular reference to protection against dumping, subsidies, market disruption and unlawful trade practices

Qualifications: applicants must: be nationals of one of the Member States of the Community; have a university degree; have at least twelve years' graduate-level experience since obtaining the above degree, of which at least five years must be in the field of commercial policy; have proven practical experience of commercial policy and the use of commercial policy instruments, especially Community commercial policy instruments; have some knowledge of economics, law or accounting; have a sound knowledge of business accounting; have a thorough knowledge of one of the official Community languages and a satisfactory knowledge of a second; have been born after 30.06.1941.

● QUALIFIED ADMINISTRATOR (A7/A6) - ref. 38/T/92/1, 39/T/92/1 and 40/T/92/1

Field: commercial policy
Duties: assisting with implementation of the common commercial policy, with particular reference to protection against dumping, subsidies, market disruption and unlawful trade practices

Qualifications: applicants must: be nationals of one of the Member States of the Community; have a university degree; have at least three years' graduate-level experience; have experience of the use of commercial policy instruments; have experience of on-the-spot investigations; have some knowledge of economics, law or accounting; have a sound knowledge of business accounting; have a thorough knowledge of one of the official Community languages and a satisfactory knowledge of a second; have been born after 30.06.1956.

● ADMINISTRATOR (B3/B1) - ref. 41/T/92/1, 42/T/92/1 and 43/T/92/1

Field: commercial policy
Duties: assisting with investigations involving the use of commercial policy instruments against dumping, subsidies, market disruption and unlawful trade practices

Qualifications: applicants must: be nationals of one of the Member States of the Community; have completed a course of advanced secondary education and obtained a final certificate or diploma; have at least twelve years' advanced secondary-level experience since obtaining the above certificate or diploma; have practical experience of the use of Community commercial policy instruments; have experience of on-the-spot investigations; have appropriate economic, legal or accounting knowledge; have a thorough knowledge of one of the official Community languages and a satisfactory knowledge of a second; have been born after 30.06.1941.

● ADMINISTRATOR (B5/B4) - ref. 44/T/92/1

Field: commercial policy
Duties: assisting with investigations involving the use of commercial policy instruments against dumping, subsidies, market disruption and unlawful trade practices

Qualifications: applicants must: be nationals of one of the Member States of the Community; have completed a course of advanced secondary education and obtained a final certificate or diploma; have at least two years' advanced secondary-level experience since obtaining the above certificate or diploma; have a satisfactory knowledge of the principles of Community commercial policy; have experience of on-the-spot investigations; have appropriate economic, legal or accounting knowledge; have a thorough knowledge of one of the official Community languages and a satisfactory knowledge of a second; have been born after 30.06.1956.

DIRECTORATE GENERAL DEVELOPMENT

● HIGHLY QUALIFIED ADMINISTRATOR (A5/A4) - ref. 45/T/92/VIII and 46/T/92/VIII

Field: health and development
Duties: formulating, coordinating and implementing public health policies adapted to the cultural, social and economic conditions of the developing countries; identifying, appraising and implementing Commission-financed projects in this sector.

Qualifications: applicants must: be nationals of one of the Member States of the Community; have a university degree in medicine and have specialised in tropical medicine and/or immunology and/or public health in developing countries; have at least twelve years' sound experience in the areas referred to above, part of which must have been spent in the field in the fight against AIDS in the developing countries; have a knowledge of the activities of the international institutions in the fight against AIDS; have a perfect command of one of the official Community languages and a thorough knowledge of a second; have been born after 30.06.1941.

● HIGHLY QUALIFIED ADMINISTRATOR (A5/A4) - ref. 47/T/92/VIII and 48/T/92/VIII

Field: health and development. Fight against AIDS in the developing countries
Duties: assisting with the identification, appraisal and implementation of a strategy and Commission-financed projects in the fight against AIDS in the developing countries

Qualifications: applicants must: be nationals of one of the Member States of the Community; have a university degree in medicine and have specialised in tropical medicine and/or immunology and/or public health in developing countries; have at least twelve years' sound experience in the areas referred to above, part of which must have been spent in the field in the fight against AIDS in the developing countries; have a knowledge of the activities of the international institutions in the fight against AIDS; have a perfect command of one of the official Community languages and a thorough knowledge of a second; have been born after 30.06.1941.

● ADMINISTRATOR (B5/B4) - ref. 49/T/92/VIII

Field: increasing public awareness of development
Duties: managing joint financing operations with development NGOs designed to increase public awareness of development. This entails analysing, appraising and monitoring projects proposed by the NGOs for joint financing in this field

Qualifications: applicants must: be nationals of one of the Member States of the Community; have completed a course of advanced secondary education and obtained a final certificate or diploma; have proven relevant experience and a thorough knowledge of NGOs at both European and international level; basic training commensurate with these requirements would be an asset; have at least two years' relevant advanced secondary-level experience since obtaining the above certificate or diploma; have a perfect command of one of the official Community languages and a thorough knowledge of a second; have been born after 30.06.1956.

● ADMINISTRATOR (B5/B4) - ref. 50/T/92/VIII

Field: financial management in the context of cooperation with developing countries
Duties: assisting with the preparation of reports and with the analysis and collection of statistics on Community aid to developing countries; assisting with the coordination of relations with the other institutions (OECD and EUROSTAT)

Qualifications: applicants must: be nationals of one of the Member States of the Community; have completed a course of advanced secondary education and obtained a final certificate or diploma; have proven experience of statistical data-processing; have some knowledge of the Commission's

accounting and statistics systems; have at least two years' relevant experience since obtaining the above certificate or diploma; have a perfect command of one of the official Community languages and a thorough knowledge of a second; have been born after 30.06.1956.

DIRECTORATE GENERAL AGRICULTURE

● HIGHLY QUALIFIED ADMINISTRATOR (A5/A4) - ref. 52/T/92/VII

● QUALIFIED ADMINISTRATOR (A7/A6) - ref. 51/T/92/VII

Field: plant health
Duties: formulating, administering and monitoring Community legislation relating to: plant health (quarantine); quality of seeds and other material for crop reproduction; propagation; authorisation and utilization of plant protection products and of maximum residue levels in agricultural products; organic farming and similar farming practices; production and marketing of animal feed and authorization of additives; food hygiene; health inspection of plants and plant products

Qualifications: applicants must: be nationals of one of the Member States of the Community; have a university degree; have at least twelve years' graduate-level experience for the A5/A4 post and two years' experience for the A7/A6 post in one or more of the above-mentioned areas since obtaining the above degree; for some of the posts involving the activities listed under I, a sound knowledge and experience of legislation relating to plant diseases (plant protection) and the production and quality control of seeds and material for plant reproduction/propagation, and a knowledge of biochemistry, toxicology, entomology or other life sciences would be an asset; for the activity referred to under II, a sound knowledge and practical experience acquired preferably in a national or regional plant protection service, plus experience at international level of methods for the control and inspection of plants and plant products would be an asset; have a thorough knowledge of one of the official Community languages and a satisfactory knowledge of a second; have been born after 30.06.1941 for the A5/A4 posts and after 30.06.56 for the A7/A6 posts.

The duties will be carried out mainly in Brussels. Those involving inspection activities will necessitate frequent travel throughout the world and could entail absences from Brussels of several months each year.

● HIGHLY QUALIFIED ADMINISTRATOR (A5/A4) - ref. 54/T/92/VII

● QUALIFIED ADMINISTRATOR (A7/A6) - ref. 53/T/92/VII

Field: veterinary sector
Duties: Formulating, administering and monitoring Community veterinary legislation.

Qualifications: Applicants must: be nationals of one of the Member States of the Community; have a university degree; have at least twelve years' relevant graduate-level experience for the A5/A4 post and two years' experience for the A7/A6 post since obtaining the degree; have acquired knowledge and practical experience - if appropriate at international level - in one or more of the following areas: hygiene in the production and marketing of animal products and products of animal origin; health inspection in the field of marketing live animals, meat and other animal products; animal protection; veterinary epidemiology; Community veterinary regulations; have a thorough knowledge of one of the official Community languages and a satisfactory knowledge of a second; have been born after 30.06.1941 for the A5/A4 posts and after 30.06.1956 for the A7/A6 posts.

The duties will be carried out mainly in Brussels. Those involving inspection activities will necessitate frequent travel throughout the world and could entail absences from Brussels of several months each year.

The Commission is an equal opportunities employer: applications from women are therefore particularly welcome. The contract will be awarded for a minimum of three years and a maximum of five. The candidates considered best qualified for the post will be called for an interview. If you are interested, please send a detailed curriculum vitae (typed and not more than four pages long) and photocopies of supporting documents such as diplomas and certificates from employers to the following address:

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES, DIRECTORATE-GENERAL, PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATION, Recruitment Unit - SC41, rue de la Loi 200, B-1049 Brussels.

Please quote the appropriate reference, to be postmarked not later than 18.09.1992.

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The Environment Liaison Centre International (ELCI) is a global coalition of environment and development NGOs, whose current membership stands at over 700 organisations (of which 70% are from the South). Its mandate is to globalise local issues which emerge from grassroots experience and localise global issues; to provide a global meeting place for NGOs; to facilitate advocacy for NGOs in the UN system and other international institutions; serve NGOs and local groups through skills and leadership training. The Executive Director will lead a multicultural team at its Secretariat in Nairobi, Kenya.

The person it seeks should: have proven international standing and acceptability and be involved in forging equal partnerships between North and South; have proven managerial experience in a senior position in a development organisation or similar; have proven experience and specialisation of environment/development issues at international and local levels; have demonstrated appreciation of gender and experience of Third World issues. Substantial experience in fundraising is a necessity. Ability to work in two or more of ELCI's working languages - English, French, Spanish - is an asset.

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ELCI
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150-151

Ford denies planning to shut plant in Britain

BY KEVIN EASON, MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

FORD denies reports that it was ready to close one of its British plants because of recession and the prospect of surplus capacity in its European operations.

Albert Caspers, vice president of manufacturing operations for Ford of Europe, seemed to have made the clearest statement yet that a manufacturing plant and thousands of jobs might have to go in an interview with *The Engineer*, an authoritative industry magazine.

The company claimed, however, that quotations had been "taken out of context" and emphasised that no closures were planned in the UK. A spokesman said: "Ford plants in Britain are at no greater risk

than any other plant in Europe.

"There are no plans for closures and the statement by Mr Caspers only related to a hypothetical situation in which sales were lost at such a rate that we had substantial over-capacity. We do not intend to allow that to happen if at all possible."

Ford's discomfiture stemmed from the fact that *The Engineer* interview appeared only 24 hours after the company had announced short-time working at Dagenham, Essex. Production of the Fiesta is being cut by 5,000 cars, worth about £40 million, for the remainder of this year.

Unions have long believed that one car plant is at risk. Halewood, on Merseyside, is considered the likeliest candidate. Mr Caspers is quoted by *The Engineer* as saying Ford's UK operations have greatly narrowed other European plants' productivity lead in the past three years.

He is reported as saying, however, that they are still not as efficient as Ford's continental operations and "transplant" factories built by Japanese motor firms in Britain, and that there would be little justification in importing British-made cars into countries capable of making them more cheaply. "If it comes to the point where we have surplus capacity... the British plants are still at risk."

Total industry sales of new cars in western Europe are down 3.3 per cent this year, mainly because of continued weakness in Britain and a sudden drop in Germany, which is still finding its level after unification.

However, Japanese "transplant" factories in the UK will substantially increase pressure in a crowded market place over the next two years by adding their output of 500,000 cars a year.

Unions at Dagenham and Halewood have been told many times by Ford executives that their plants are engaged in a fight for survival and must increase productivity by as much as 30 per cent. Workers have accepted changes in working practices, improving quality and raising productivity. That has enabled Ford to export surplus British output



Profit growth: Wyevalle Garden Centres, chaired by Christopher Powell, improved net operating margins from 16.9 per cent to 17.5 per cent in the six months to June after acquiring the 15-outlet Crampthorn chain. Crampthorn's margins rose substantially, in line with expectations. Buying Crampthorn also pushed up group sales by 75 per cent

from £11.6 million to £20.3 million. Wyevalle's original centres increased sales by 3.1 per cent. Crampthorn's turnover fell because unprofitable machinery sales, and heavy discounting, were discontinued. Wyevalle raised interim profits from £2.2 million to £3.1 million but the dividend stays at 2.48p, covered almost three times. The second half normally produces only half as much profit as the first and the company hints at a final dividend of 1.24p. It has conditional planning permission for an additional building at the Homebush retail park in Chelmsford, Essex. The former Crampthorn head office and shop can therefore be disposed of.

Alfred McAlpine cuts payout by a third

ALFRED McAlpine, the housebuilder and civil engineer, has cut its interim dividend by one third to 3p after it suffered a loss of £71,000 (£700,000 profit) in the half-year to end-April on a turnover of £250 million. The group is buying the 40 per cent minority of its housebuilding division for a minimum of £18.7 million in cash and shares. Graeme Odgers, group chief executive, predicted this division would return to profit this year thanks to higher sales and cheaper land prices.

Mr Odgers said McAlpine's four divisions will all be profitable this year, but the overall group profits will be lower than 1991, when they reached £9.3 million. "In the light of this we felt we should be prudent and reduce the dividend," he said. McAlpine's shares fell 22p to 101p. Mr Odgers pledged to make McAlpine one of the most profitable businesses in the construction sector. *Tempos, page 18*

Rentokil lifts interim

RENTOKIL Group, the pest control, healthcare and timber preserving company, is lifting its interim dividend by 20.3 per cent to 0.64p. Pre-tax profits for the first half of this year rose from £42.3 million to £51.1 million. Clive Thompson, chief executive, says that but for exchange rate movements, pre-tax profits would have been another £2 million higher. Net cash balances of £39.8 million generated £1.77 million in net interest. Profits in Britain rose, though trading conditions were difficult. Rentokil said: "The board looks to continued good growth for the full year." *Tempos, page 18*

Ericsson tumbles

ERICSSON, a Swedish telecommunications group, said pre-tax profits plunged in the first half of the year but orders were increasing and all its plants were working at full speed. First-half profit before tax and appropriations tumbled to Kr59 million (£5.48 million) from Kr1.78 billion in the same period of 1991. Orders for the first six months increased 24 per cent to Kr26.77 billion, mainly as a result of the introduction of digital pocket phones and continued orders for digital mobile telephone systems. Ericsson shares closed at Kr113 on the Stockholm bourse yesterday, down Kr1.

Advance for Dawson

DAWSON Group, the truck hirer and dealer, recorded a £2.16 million profit turnaround in the first half of the year to end the period almost £2 million in the black. Pre-tax profits for the six months were £1.97 million (£0.19 million loss). Earnings of 4.5p a share allow a 0.75p (nil) interim. Turnover rose from £21.5 million to £22 million. The improvement came mainly from the rentals division, which saw a 9 per cent increase in turnover and achieved the best utilisation of its hire fleet since 1989.

Bellwinch recovers

BELLWINCH, the South of England house builder, has returned to profit at the operating level for the year to end-June. The £483,000 profit before interest came in a year when house completions almost halved to 124 from last year's 228, when the company made a £568,000 operating loss. At the pre-tax level, the loss was slashed from £15.1 million to £98,000. Last year, the company made huge provisions to cover the writedown of its property portfolio. There is again no dividend for the year.

Hafnia downgraded

STANDARD and Poor's, the credit rating agency, downgraded the debt of Hafnia, the Danish insurance group, from triple-B to double-B, after the company suspended payments to creditors. Yesterday, the British subsidiaries of Hafnia claimed they would not be affected. Hafnia discovered it had a negative capital base despite a rights issue, and the company's supervisory board subsequently adopted a Danish version of chapter 11 by seeking protection from its creditors through the transfer of assets to a new holding company.

American Airlines dives

AMERICAN Airlines has told Wall Street that it will make heavy losses in the third quarter. It says its losses will be at least \$48 million compared with a \$70.3 million profit for the same period last year. Savage fare wars, both in the American domestic market and on the competitive transatlantic route, have cut deeply into airline finances this year, forcing some to cancel large new plane orders. Analysts say the dogfight virtually guarantees that none of the major airlines in America will make money this year.

Lec stays in the black

LEC Refrigeration, the Bognor fridge maker, remained in the black in the first half of the year despite a 20 per cent fall in turnover to £19.34 million for the six months to end-June. Profits before tax were £320,000, down from £703,000. The company said action taken previously to contain costs had prevented it from falling into loss. It hopes that new products such as the Turbo larder refrigerators, will help increase market share in the second half. The interim is held at 4p.

Vivat lifts earnings

ELIMINATING unprofitable and low-margin activities, while reducing overheads and stock write-offs, helped Vivat to increase pre-tax profits by 26 per cent to £1.2 million in the six months to June. The company is now concentrating on its Lee Cooper jeans business. Tough trading conditions in all markets knocked turnover down 17 per cent to £35.6 million and the interim dividend is passed. A decision on the final dividend will not be taken until the full year's results are in.

Industry to lead UK recovery

BY RODNEY HOBSON

INDUSTRY, not the consumer or the housebuyer, will lead Britain out of recession, according to the Chartered Institute of Marketing.

Douglas McWilliams, the institute's economic adviser, says: "Previous recoveries in the UK have been led by consumer markets. This time it looks likely to be different. Consumer markets are likely to be held back by excess mortgage debts, rising unemployment and fears of further falls in house prices."

Professor McWilliams sees gross domestic product falling 1 per cent this year, holding steady in 1993 and growing by 2 per cent in 1994. The figures represent a sharp downward revision of the in-

stitute's previous forecasts. Inflation is seen as continuing to fall, from 3.5 per cent in 1992 to 2 per cent in 1993 and 1 per cent in 1994.

Professor McWilliams says: "Businesses will have to take action to preserve their cash-flow in the short term but three potential sources of growth are likely to emerge by 1994."

"Falling costs will improve companies' cash positions, generating funds for investment. The privatised utilities' plans for increased investment will be continuing. And exports are likely to resume their growth."

"The UK share of world export markets in manufactured products has been rising since the mid-1980s and as

these markets start to recover, the improving competitive positions of UK firms should create extra sales for them."

The institute says that the failure of consumer markets to revive means that the recovery is likely to be delayed and that the economy could deteriorate further before it starts. Professor McWilliams states: "Because of the unexpected weakness of demand so far this year, many business sales plans now look exposed, with year-end targets unattainable. With companies now paying strict attention to their cashflow, these sales shortfalls are likely to result in a rising tide of redundancies and a further round of expenditure cuts."

O'Reilly lifts stake in MGN

BY JON ASHWORTH

INDEPENDENT Newspapers, the Irish media group headed by Tony O'Reilly, has increased its stake in Mirror Group Newspapers and confirmed it is taking a close look at MGN's operations.

The group, publisher of the *Irish Independent*, Ireland's biggest circulation daily newspaper, has lifted its stake in MGN from 1.3 per cent to 2 per cent in the past month. Liam Healy, chief executive officer, said independent was weighing up its options. He said: "We are having a look to see if we should have a look."

The newspaper group emerged as a buyer of MGN shares soon after they were listed on the London Stock Exchange last month. Independent's interest came to light after MGN submitted 212 disclosure forms to identify potential stake holders.

Dr O'Reilly has made no secret of his interest in MGN, publisher of the *Daily Mirror* and *Sunday Mirror*, yet he is unlikely to make any dramatic moves in the near future. Arthur Andersen, the administrator to the private Maxwell interests, has effective control of more than 54 per cent of MGN and is thought unlikely to sell its stake until the share price is closer to the flotation price of 125p. MGN's shares were unchanged at 63p yesterday.

News of the increased shareholding emerged as Independent announced pre-tax profits of 17.7 million (£5.6 million), up from 17.5 million, for the six months to end-June. Turnover increased to 177.4 million (£174.5 million). Earnings per share were 16.2p (12.6p). There is an interim dividend of 5.5p (5p).

Improved margins in the Irish publishing operations lifted group operating profits 34 per cent to 11.05 million.

Gibson Greetings opens European offices

BY OUR CITY STAFF

THE European headquarters of Gibson Greetings International at Telford, Shropshire, was opened yesterday by Benjamin Sottile, president, chairman and chief executive of Gibson Greetings Inc, the American parent company.

On his way to the opening, Mr Sottile took in some local colour with a visit to the statue of Thomas Telford.

The European operation has been set up by Peter Osman to target the British, Irish and continental markets. He has recruited 72 staff and expects to have a total 100 within eighteen months.

Mr Osman has worked at BP, Canadian Pacific and Merck and Co. He was managing director of Hanson White from 1980 to 1985 then managing director of Valentines of Dundee, the Hallmark subsidiary. He left in 1991 to set up Gibson Greetings International. Gibson is taking 55,000 sq ft at Telford with a further 20,000 sq ft available for expansion.



Pause for reflection: Benjamin Sottile at Thomas Telford's statue yesterday

Moves in the pipeline to end trench warfare on roads

Ministry wants holes in its memory

BY RODNEY HOBSON

THE procession of services digging up the same stretch of road and putting it back one after the other may become a thing of the past. The transport department wants to co-ordinate holes in the road by putting them on computer.

The department is asking computer experts to submit tenders for providing a road and street works register as part of the citizens' charter to reduce disruption from the likes of gas, cable television and electricity. The first job could be to suggest a less clumsy title than the Computerised Road and Street Works Register Service, or CRSWR for short. The CRSWR will collect details of street and road works in England, Wales and Scotland and distribute and co-ordinate information between local authorities, utilities, and anyone else inclined to come along with a pickaxe and pneumatic drill.

Consulting users on the exact form of

service to be provided, how it will be managed and the small matter of who will put up the funds will occupy the next two months. Details of requirements will then be sent out to potential tenderers for the computer contract, which will be required to demonstrate "technical and financial suitability". A small number of tenderers will be selected to submit detailed proposals.

The department has not yet decided if there will be a single national system, a series of linked regional systems or a system for each highway authority. A spokesman said: "Potential tenderers for the contract must be able to demonstrate that they have the relevant expertise in developing and running similar services."

If the department goes ahead with a national system, the appointed operator will have to develop the necessary software, set up and manage the communications network, provide a help desk service, collect fees from users and provide a one-

off-service for excavators apart from the utilities. The department may decide to let and manage the computer contract itself or it may invite the frequent road diggers to form a company to oversee progress.

Under the New Roads and Street Works Act of 1991, the Secretaries of State for Transport, Scotland and Wales have the power to require local highway authorities to maintain a register of works that are planned or have been carried out.

The CRSWR will be used by about 500 organisations likely to want 5,000 connections into the system between them. It is due to start operations in April 1994. In the first stage, users will provide up-to-date details of their works, which will be distributed to all organisations with an interest in the area.

Further stages will include additional facilities to make life easier for the highway authorities co-ordinating the work and inspecting sites to see if the let's-all-dig-together approach is working.

BRITISH FUNDS

GOVERNMENT securities spent another dull day, with the market barely changed in an extremely quiet trading session. After a relatively active morning, the afternoon was quiet, not really affected by sterling's weakness.

Simon Briscoe, an economist at Greenwell Montagu, said: "If anything, longer-dated securities have been outperforming, as has the auction stock."

The gilt future ended the day three ticks higher at £97.75 on a volume of 37,000 contracts. The trading range was between £97.5 and £98.

At the shorter end, Treasury 10 per cent, 1994 finished unchanged at £100.15, while... 2g the mid-dated securities. Conversion 10 per cent, 1996 lost three ticks to £101.80. At the longer end, Treasury 8 1/2 per cent, 2017 firmed six ticks to £98.22.

High	Low	Stock	Price	Chg	Int	Gr
102.1	100.0	Each 17/4 1992	100.1	...	13.46	0.02
97.1	95.0	Each 17/4 1993	97.1	...	8.19	0.02
97.0	95.0	Each 17/4 1993	97.0	...	8.31	0.76
100.0	99.0	Each 17/4 1993	100.0	...	10.00	0.90
100.0	101.0	Each 17/4 1993	100.0	...	12.22	0.88
100.0	101.0	Each 17/4 1993	100.0	...	13.16	0.80
99.0	98.0	Each 17/4 1994	99.0	...	8.65	0.57
99.0	98.0	Each 17/4 1994	99.0	...	8.09	0.55
99.0	98.0	Each 17/4 1994	99.0	...	8.04	0.65
100.0	99.0	Each 17/4 1994	100.0	...	11.91	0.26
100.0	101.0	Each 17/4 1994	100.0	...	12.78	0.26
100.0	101.0	Each 17/4 1994	100.0	...	12.62	0.88
99.0	98.0	Each 17/4 1994	99.0	...	3.38	0.10
100.0	99.0	Each 17/4 1996	100.0	...	10.00	0.80
100.0	101.0	Each 17/4 1996	100.0	...	11.43	0.86
100.0	101.0	Each 17/4 1996	100.0	...	11.73	0.57
100.0	101.0	Each 17/4 1996	100.0	...	8.07	0.26
100.0	101.0	Each 17/4 1996	100.0	...	8.02	0.49
100.0	101.0	Each 17/4 1996	100.0	...	11.90	0.73
110.0	109.0	Each 17/4 1996	110.0	...	12.49	0.77
110.0	109.0	Each 17/4 1996	110.0	...	12.08	0.75
100.0	101.0	Each 17/4 1997	100.0	...	10.12	0.67
114.0	113.0	Each 17/4 1997	114.0	...	11.70	0.67

SHORTS (under 5 years)

High	Low	Stock	Price	Chg	Int	Gr
102.1	100.0	Each 17/4 1992	100.1	...	13.46	0.02
97.1	95.0	Each 17/4 1993	97.1	...	8.19	0.02
97.0	95.0	Each 17/4 1993	97.0	...	8.31	0.76
100.0	99.0	Each 17/4 1993	100.0	...	10.00	0.90
100.0	101.0	Each 17/4 1993	100.0	...	12.22	0.88
100.0	101.0	Each 17/4 1993	100.0	...	13.16	0.80
99.0	98.0	Each 17/4 1994	99.0	...	8.65	0.57
99.0	98.0	Each 17/4 1994	99.0	...	8.09	0.55
99.0	98.0	Each 17/4 1994	99.0	...	8.04	0.65
100.0	99.0	Each 17/4 1994	100.0	...	11.91	0.26
100.0	101.0	Each 17/4 1994	100.0	...	12.78	0.26
100.0	101.0	Each 17/4 1994	100.0	...	12.62	0.88
99.0	98.0	Each 17/4 1994	99.0	...	3.38	0.10
100.0	99.0	Each 17/4 1996	100.0	...	10.00	0.80
100.0	101.0	Each 17/4 1996	100.0	...	11.43	0.86
100.0	101.0	Each 17/4 1996	100.0	...	11.73	0.57
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110.0	109.0	Each 17/4 1996	110.0	...	12.08	0.75
100.0	101.0	Each 17/4 1997	100.0	...	10.12	0.67
114.0	113.0	Each 17/4 1997	114.0	...	11.70	0.67

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

High	Low	Stock	Price	Chg	Int	Gr
102.1	100.0	Each 17/4 1992	100.1	...	13.46	0.02
97.1	95.0	Each 17/4 1993	97.1	...	8.19	0.02
97.0	95.0	Each 17/4 1993	97.0	...	8.31	0.76
100.0	99.0	Each 17/4 1993	100.0	...	10.00	0.90
100.0	101.0	Each 17/4 1993	100.0	...	12.22	0.88
100.0	101.0	Each 17/4 1993	100.0	...	13.16	0.80
99.0	98.0	Each 17/4 1994	99.0	...	8.65	0.57
99.0	98.0	Each 17/4 1994	99.0	...	8.09	0.55
99.0	98.0	Each 17/4 1994	99.0	...	8.04	0.65
100.0	99.0	Each 17/4 1994	100.0	...	11.91	0.26
100.0	101.0	Each 17/4 1994	100.0	...	12.78	0.26
100.0	101.0	Each 17/4 1994	100.0	...	12.62	0.88
99.0	98.0	Each 17/4 1994	99.0	...	3.38	0.10
100.0	99.0	Each 17/4 1996	100.0	...	10.00	0.80
100.0	101.0	Each 17/4 1996	100.0	...	11.43	0.86
100.0	101.0	Each 17/4 1996	100.0	...	11.73	0.57
100.0	101.0	Each 17/4 1996	100.0	...	8.07	0.26
100.0	101.0	Each 17/4 1996	100.0	...	8.02	0.49
100.0	101.0	Each 17/4 1996	100.0	...	11.90	0.73
110.0	109.0	Each 17/4 1996	110.0	...	12.49	0.77
110.0	109.0	Each 17/4 1996	110.0	...	12.08	0.75
100.0	101.0	Each 17/4 1997	100.0	...	10.12	0.67
114.0	113.0	Each 17/4 1997	114.0	...	11.70	0.67

LONGS (over 15 years)

High	Low	Stock	Price	Chg	Int	Gr
102.1	100.0	Each 17/4 1992	100.1	...	13.46	0.02
97.1	95.0	Each 17/4 1993	97.1	...	8.19	0.02
97.0	95.0	Each 17/4 1993	97.0	...	8.31	0.76
100.0	99.0	Each 17/4 1993	100.0	...	10.00	0.90
100.0	101.0	Each 17/4 1993	100.0	...	12.22	0.88
100.0	101.0	Each 17/4 1993	100.0	...	13.16	0.80
99.0	98.0	Each 17/4 1994	99.			

Willis Corroon pins hopes on long-term policy



Fresh fields: Clive Thompson, of Rentokil

THE gulf in the views of Sedgwick and Willis Corroon, the two giants of the insurance broking sector, on the prospects for their industry have been thrown into sharp relief this week by contrasting dividend policies. Only one of them can be right.

Three days ago, Sedgwick courageously flagged a halved payout for the year. The justification was that, with no sign of an upturn in sight, distributing the entire year's earnings once again would not have been in the long-term interests of the group or of shareholders. Willis, however, has taken a more robust view, and despite announcing interim figures well below expectations, is intending to hold its payout at last year's 13.2p level.

Which is correct? It all depends on your view of Willis's assertion of confidence in its "long-term strategy." While it is true that the cycle must turn eventually, the short-term outlook is

highly unfavourable. Both groups are at the mercy of a cocktail of American insurance, interest and exchange rates, all of which are working against them.

Willis's profits are expected to fall from £96.1 million in 1991 to close to £60 million this year, giving earnings of only 9.2p a share which would leave the dividend only two-thirds covered. That would be bearable for one year, but if as some analysts are forecasting, 1993 proves no better, Willis would be under great pressure to cut the dividend or suffer another large drain on its reserves. A forecast halving of the dividend to 6.6p would leave the shares yielding only 5.3 per cent for next year, almost a full two points below Sedgwick. Even a more optimistic scenario, in which US rates and profits recovered more quickly, could still mean Willis's dividend is at best only just covered until the mid-1990s, putting it at a disadvantage compared with

its more financially flexible rival, Willis shares look vulnerable even after yesterday's sharp fall.

McAlpine

GRAEME Odgers has introduced stability and financial discipline into Alfred McAlpine in his two-year stint as chief executive. What a shame he cannot produce profits so easily.

McAlpine's decision to cut its interim dividend by a third to 3p for the six months to end-April is a reflection of the unfavourable conditions in the construction and housebuilding industries. These are amply depicted in the half-year figures, which showed a £71,000 loss on a turnover of £250 million.

The fall in the dividend is nevertheless a bitter pill to the institutions who paid 255p for the company's shares in last year's rights issue. The cut, the losses, and the fat chance of any imminent recovery knocked 22p

off the shares to see them close at 101p.

McAlpine's decision to buy in the 40 per cent minority of its housebuilding division for a minimum of £18.7 million is a more optimistic sign. Mr Odgers forecast a profit from housebuilding this year proves that he believes he is buying at the bottom of the market. The land bank is reasonably valued at £22,000 a plot, while the low prices of current land acquisition should generate a 20 per cent gross profit margin.

Any improvement in the housebuilding division will be offset by the continuing travails of the contracting business where margins have plummeted, payments are rare and the value of work in hand has fallen 22 per cent to £265 million in the past year. The group will need a substantial improvement in the economy before it begins to make real headway.

The group will struggle to make £5 million this year, and see little improvement in

1993. Earnings of 5.7p would put the shares on a p/e ratio of 18, while a 6p dividend generates an 8 per cent yield. While the shares are unattractive in the short term, McAlpine is a sound business and offers good value for patient investors.

Rentokil

RENTOKIL looks set to make fresh fortunes in fresh fields. Having stamped on bugs and pests around the world down the years, and then having expanded into tropical plant care and healthcare, the company, led by chief executive Clive Thompson, is moving into water and ventilation.

The environmental services and property concern continues to live up to its reputation of achieving at least 20 per cent growth in net earnings, and in the six months ended June 30 shows pre-tax profits up from £42.3 million to £51.1 million.

But for currency move-

ments, pre-tax profits would have been 25.5 per cent up, though because the difference in 1992 year-end conversion rates may not be as marked as they were when measuring June 1991 against June 1992, the year's currency hit may only be about £1.5 million.

The interim dividend is raised 20.3 per cent to 0.64p a share, and Rentokil again demonstrates a strong generation of cash by showing net cash balances at June 30 of £39.8 million.

The public's growing concern for healthier water and air bodes well for further development of environmental services, and further inroads into the medical world should also enhance profits.

Pre-tax profits in 1992 of £115 million (£94.6 million) look feasible to put the shares at 150p on 20 times prospective earnings. The rating may look pricey, but Rentokil has proved a worthwhile holding down the years. That reputation should remain intact.

Currency fears push shares into reverse

CURRENCY uncertainties, as the pound sank to its lowest against the mark since joining the ERM, took their toll on shares, with early gains reversed in late trading. In another volatile session, movements were again exaggerated as market-makers struggled to keep level books. Modest gains followed reports of a Smith New Court "backstage" programme and livelier American activity after two large American brokers, reportedly Salomon and Goldman Sachs, were said to have been active buyers in the futures market.

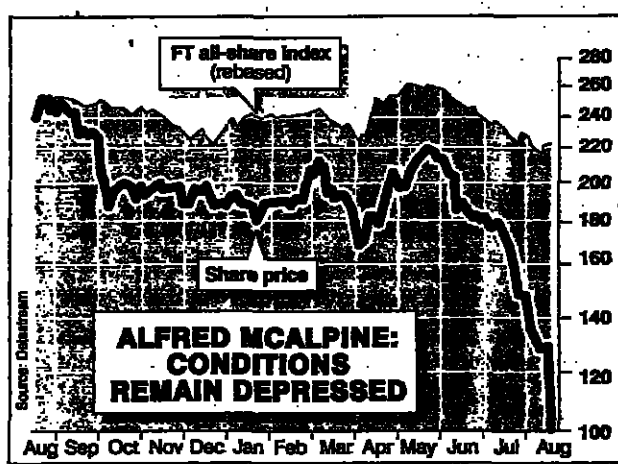
Money supply figures had little impact on shares, but a negative start on Wall Street and worries about sterling unsettled sentiment in late London dealing. The FT-SE 100 index ended down 4.1 points at 2,359.4, having been 13 points up at one time. The FT index of 30 shares lost 8.1 points to 1,757.5. Volume reached 425.9 million shares.

Lloyd's insurance brokers again suffered as Willis Corroon unveiled a worse than expected slide in interim profits and gave a warning that full-year profits would be below last year. Karen Neale, at BZW, has cut a previously inherited full-year profits forecast of £85 million to £57 million for the current year, with next year's forecast reduced from £100 million to £65 million. The shares responded with a 16p drop to 170p.

Others in the sector also lost ground. Sedgwick Group, which reported disappointing figures on Tuesday, eased 2p to 113p. CE Heath lost 9p to 251p. JIB Group fell 6p to 111p. Lowndes Lambert slipped 1p to 239p and Steel Barrill Jones retreated 4p to 175p.

Shares in Rascal Electronics were heavily traded, with a line of six million shares and another line of four million sold at 63p each. Rascal hardened 5p to 64p on heavy turnover of 26 million shares. Interest in the shares was boosted by a research document issued by Rascal's joint broker, Smith New Court, recommending buying Rascal up to 70p before the company's demerger from its Chubb security business in October.

Wellcome was in demand after recent visits by brokers,



who came away with the view that underlying trading conditions remain healthy. The shares gained 10p to 802p—2p above the 800p strike price of last month's £2.2 billion share issue, although one dealer was worried that the shares could move lower in the short term. It looks as if Robert Fleming, the merchant bank that organised the share sale, will end its "green shoe" price stabilisation mechanism.

It is thought that 20 million shares were bought, out of the 40 million shares it could have bought in. The Wellcome Trust share sale, therefore,

involved 270 million shares and 20 million shares under the green shoe option, equating to about a third of the company, leaving the Trust with 40 per cent.

Alfred McAlpine dived 22p to 101p after the construction and housebuilding group slid into the red at the interim stage, cut its dividend, and reiterated that market conditions remained severely depressed. The price has more than halved in the last three months and a number of institutional shareholders who subscribed to April 1991's rights issue at 255p are very unhappy.

Elsewhere, BPB lost 9p to

144p on reports of a Kleinwort Benson downgrading, while RMC reversed a 9p rise to end 3p lower at 469p. Against the trend, English China Clays rose 7p to 499p, squeezed higher by some buying interest in quiet trading.

Ladbroke fell 8p to 141p on talk of one million shares overhanging the market and a fair amount of options activity. There was also options activity in Forte, 1p lower to 130p, although the stock overhang that has been affecting the company has now cleared up.

There was a lot of options activity, in both the calls and puts, in London, which has recently been the subject of talk suggesting that Malaysia's Genting, which has just over 5 per cent of London, may bid for Fidelity's near 10 per cent stake in the conglomerate. The shares gave up 3p to 78p.

Hartstone recovered some of the recent losses, jumping 14p to 139p.

Treasury proposals to transfer electricity debt to the private sector had a dampening effect on electricity shares, with the package down 58p to £3.170. Water shares, however, made further progress on their defensive qualities.

Dawson Group jumped 17p to 109p after the truck hire and dealer announced an interim profits recovery. Shares in Expamet surged by 14p to 43p after a rise in interim profits.

3 Mendenips, up 11p to 331p, recovered some of Wednesday's losses resulting from the news of a fresh monopolies commission investigation.

PHILIP PANGALOS

Irish bank raises its rates

BY NEIL BENNETT
BANKING CORRESPONDENT

AIB Group, the leading Irish bank, yesterday raised its main lending rates by 0.5 of a percentage point. Most businesses will now have to pay a 13.5 per cent rate on borrowings, while personal lenders will be charged 15.75 per cent. However, AIB has not raised mortgage rates.

A spokesman for AIB said the increase was inevitable due to the rise in wholesale money market rates. The Bank of Ireland, the country's other main bank, is expected to follow the move in the next few days.

Bertie Ahern, the finance minister, said the increase was particularly unwelcome.

Tokyo index leaps to close above 15,000

Tokyo — Shares closed sharply higher and the Nikkei index leapt 617.02 points, or 4.21 per cent, to 15,267.76. Government measures to cope with debt and property problems started short-covering, which snowballed as prices rose. But wariness of going too far pulled the market down from its highs.

The Nikkei opened higher, jumping 173.73 points in the first 15 minutes. It retreated in mid-morning as buyers wavered but soon picked up steam on program orders.

Rising prices forced more short-covering and the Nikkei reached its peak for the day — 895.73 points up — in mid-afternoon. But caution and profit-taking pulled down prices towards the close. The

Nikkei closed above 15,000 for the first time since Monday of last week. It was up 958.35 points, or 6.7 per cent, from this Tuesday, when it closed at a 77-month low of 14,309.41.

□ Hong Kong — Overseas institutions sold blue chips across the board in heavy afternoon trading, but prices closed above their lows for the day on a last-minute recovery led by local bargain hunters.

Buying evaporated in the early afternoon when the Hang Seng nosedived by about 4 per cent to a low for the day of 3,377.14. It later climbed back up to close down 138.83 points, or 2.47 per cent, at 5,481.61. Turnover ballooned to HK\$3.86 billion (£258 million) from Wednesday's HK\$2.02 billion. (Reuters)

US investors retreat

New York — Prices slipped in the late morning as investors returned to the sidelines, unwilling to commit funds before hearing President Bush's much-touted acceptance of the Republican nomination to night. The Dow Jones industrial average fell 10.06 points to 3,297 after having been as high as 3,315.

□ Sydney — Australian shares closed lower. The all-

ordinaries index closed 8 points down at 1,553.6.

□ Frankfurt — German shares ended near a new 1992 low. The Dax index closed 11.66 points down at 1,513.06.

□ Singapore — After the swings on Wednesday, share prices closed firmer, but off the day's highs. The Straits Times industrial index rose 11.48 points to 1,323.59. (Reuters)



Nestlé S.A., Cham & Vevey

Split/Exchange of the registered shares and bearer shares

Qualifying date for the exchange: September 1, 1992

The extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders of Nestlé S.A. held on 18 August 1992 resolved to split the registered shares and bearer shares with a nominal value of Sfr 100 into 10 registered and bearer shares with a nominal value of Sfr 10 each. The banks undersigned below will exchange the existing shares at no cost as follows:

Before:	Registered shares	Bearer shares
Quantity of securities:	2'510'000	1'130'000
	1 registered share with a nominal value of Sfr 100 (V 213.695)	1 bearer share with a nominal value of Sfr 100 (V 213.697)
	Split 1:10	Split 1:10
Afterwards:	10 registered shares with a nominal value of Sfr 10 (V 213.768)	10 bearer shares with a nominal value of Sfr 10 (V 213.767)
Quantity of securities:	25'100'000	11'300'000

1. Exchange ratio

Registered shares
1 existing registered share of Nestlé S.A. with a nominal value of Sfr 100, certificate without coupon, will be exchanged into 10 new registered shares of Nestlé S.A. with a nominal value of Sfr 10 each, certificate without coupon.

Bearer shares
1 existing bearer share of Nestlé S.A. with a nominal value of Sfr 100, with coupons no. 12 & 13, will be exchanged into 10 new bearer shares of Nestlé S.A. with a nominal value of Sfr 10 each, with coupons no. 1 & 2. The new bearer shares will be issued as single securities and as certificates for 100 and 10 000 bearer shares.

2. Exchange period

September 1, 1992 until November 30, 1992

As from December 1, 1992 only the new securities will be acceptable as «good delivery» on the stock exchange.

3. Change of trading

The official trading of registered shares of Nestlé S.A. with a nominal value of Sfr 100 will continue until Monday, August 31, 1992; trading will stop on all stock exchanges as from Tuesday, September 1, 1992. From September 1, 1992 only the following securities will be officially traded:

registered shares of Nestlé S.A. with a nominal value of Sfr 10,
bearer shares of Nestlé S.A. with a nominal value of Sfr 10

4. Listing

Registered shares at the stock exchanges of Zurich, Basle, Geneva, Paris, London and Tokyo.

Bearer shares at the stock exchanges of Zurich, Basle, Geneva, Paris, Amsterdam, Frankfurt, Düsseldorf, Brussels, Vienna and London.

5. Exchange agents

In Switzerland:
Credit Suisse, Zurich, and branches
Swiss Bank Corporation, Basle, and branches
Union Bank of Switzerland, Zurich, and branches
Swiss Volksbank, Bern, and branches
Bank Leu Ltd., Zurich and branches
BSI-Banca della Svizzera Italiana, Lugano, and branches
Banque Cantonale Vaudoise, Lausanne, and branches
Zürcher Kantonalbank, Zurich, and branches
Bernar Kantonalbank, Bern, and branches
Zürcher Kantonalbank, Zug and branches
Banque de l'Etat de Fribourg, Fribourg, and branches
Dartler, Hentsch & Cie, Geneva
Lombard, Odier & Cie, Geneva
Coutts & Co. Ltd., Zurich, and branches

In England:
Credit Suisse, London
Swiss Bank Corporation, London
Union Bank of Switzerland, London

In the United States of America:
Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, New York
Credit Suisse, New York

In France:
Crédit Commercial de France, Paris
Banque Paribas, Paris

In Germany:
Dresdner Bank Ltd., Frankfurt/Main and Düsseldorf

In the Netherlands:
Piermon, Heiding & Piermon, Amsterdam

In Austria:
Girozentrale und Bank der österreichischen Sparkassen AG, Vienna

In Japan:
Nomura Securities Co. Ltd., Tokyo
Yamaichi Securities Co. Ltd., Tokyo

In Belgium:
Banque Bruxelles Lambert, Brussels

6. Instructions for the shareholders

Deposited shares
If the registered and bearer shares are deposited in an open safekeeping account with a bank, the exchange of certificates will be done automatically at no cost to customers.

Shareholders who keep their shares at home
Shareholders who keep their registered shares at home will be informed about the exchange directly by the Share Transfer Office. Shareholders who keep their bearer shares at home are requested to present their shares to their bank or to one of the official exchange agents mentioned above.

Zurich, August 21, 1992

The bank responsible for handling the transaction:
Credit Suisse

Security numbers	
Registered shares	Sfr 100 nom. Value (old) 213 695, ISIN CH 000 213695 7
Bearer shares	Sfr 100 nom. Value (old) 213 697, ISIN CH 000 213697 3
Registered shares	Sfr 10 nom. Value (new) 213 768, ISIN CH 000 213768 2
Bearer shares	Sfr 10 nom. Value (new) 213 767, ISIN CH 000 213767 4

Anglian Group Sp (210)	207	TR Technology Units	1700
Buxley (100)	92	Tamilton Cider 10p (140)	164
Broadgate Inv Trust (100)	101	Telegraph (325)	280
Dartmoor Inv Trs Warrants	7	Thorn 1000 Smir Cos Wts 14	14
Dwyer A	19	Yorkshire TV Warrants	16
Euro Smir Cos US (500)	470		
HSBC 75p	320		
Kwort Endt Pky (100)	100		
MPI Paratone (115)	115		
Quality Care Fuzs (136)	151		

RIGHTS ISSUES	
Reckitt Benckiser Sp n/p (5)	215p (-9p)
Cavendish 1p n/p (20)	448p (-11p)
Channel Sp n/p (20)	330p (-12p)
Cray Electronics n/p (61)	841p (-12p)
Warrington 10p n/p (314)	205p (-11p)
	170p (-16p)
	483p (-10p)
	552p (-4p)
	144p (-9p)
	94p (-13p)

Closing Prices Page 21

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Lloyd's costs are key to success

To add to its more spectacular woes, Lloyd's has now to confront the thorny issue of rising costs, which have been eroding the insurance market's competitive position. A common response in the market was to blame the deterioration on the flamboyant building in which the market operates and other costs related to the Corporation. This simply will not wash, even though the Corporation has adopted a policy of fully recovering its market services costs. Between 1982 and 1990, Corporation charges grew 3.5 per cent in real terms but declined from 1.2 to 1.1 per cent of premiums.

By far the greatest engine of growth in costs were those directly controlled by the market, notably agents' fees and direct syndicate expenses. The real villains of the piece were direct syndicate expenses, which climbed from £114 million in 1982 to £453 million in 1990, a real growth rate of 12.6 per cent compound. As a percentage of premiums, they rose from 4 to 7.5 per cent.

The Rowland Task Force report did not beat about the bush on costs, saying bluntly that Lloyd's needed to cut by about 50 per cent in order to return to the levels current in the mid-1980s. Outside commentators have been even more scathing, suggesting that 30 per cent was optimistic. The argument here relates to assumptions of a 20 per cent hardening of rates, the damage done by the disastrous years of 1989 and 1990, plus doubts over Rowland's expectations on investment income.

Low rates at the bottom of the insurance cycle are no help in the drive to lower costs. But once Lloyd's had a competitive edge due to its lower costs. Since the mid-1960s, though the market's headcount has trebled, real premiums have gone up by less than half. Becoming lean and fit once again will require Lloyd's to lose staff.

Redeeming virtues

Government finances have become hooked on asset sales and as the big privatisations dry up, it is having to look hard to fill the gaps. For last year and this, the target was upped from £5 billion to £8 billion, forcing some innovative ideas to turn paper into cash. Presumably, the myriad tranches of debt imposed on privatised utilities were originally intended to provide a steady income — BT has a loan to government of between £130 and £230 million maturing every year until 2007. Redeeming or selling these in advance shows that the addict needs heavier doses, but at least the convoluted scheme devised by Barings shows there is no panic. The government could have sold the whole £4 billion worth in this financial year in an attempt to keep the PSBR down to its £28 billion target, especially as high quality corporate debt is in high demand.

The scheme is certainly ingenious, inviting bidding competition instead of discounts to unload the stocks on the market. Electricity companies played down the supposed non-financial advantages to them of redeeming early, such as removing restrictive covenants or avoiding government stakes, getting in the way of their own plans. But they are definitely interested. Most are flush with cash from profits well above those envisaged at privatisation and any loss incurred by redeeming stock at above par might have some public relations advantage. However the experiment goes, debt sales are likely to play a big part in keeping asset sales up. The government targets fall to £5.5 billion a year from 1993-5. There should be little problem filling them. Apart from the remaining debt for sale, a further £1.3 billion of BT and electricity debt is due for normal repayment and the Treasury still has about £4 billion worth of BT shares and 40 per cent of National Power and PowerGen in its desk drawers.

Angela Mackay
explains why a 1960s' high street legend is considering going back to the scene of his greatest success

The name Conran still pervades British retailing. We wear the clothes, read the books and sit on the furniture. Londoners shop at the delicatessens and eat at the restaurants. If Sir Terence Conran, the family patriarch, has his way, young householders will once again buy the Conran vision at Habitat, the chain of furniture and homeware stores Sir Terence founded in the sixties and is trying to reclaim from Storehouse, its current owner.

He has learned from his last rocky ride with Storehouse where he was ousted as chairman in May 1990. He is not talking about putting up vast sums to regain control of his creation, but is talking to two parties interested in buying the loss-making Habitat from Storehouse.

"I will invest a modest amount but enough to make me part of a revival of the chain. If we are successful, I don't envisage I will take an executive role but become a consultant on merchandise and marketing," Sir Terence said. But in the next breath, he did not rule out taking the helm. "If I had an executive role, I would want the responsibility to go with it."

In a recent interview with *The Times*, Sir Terence said his biggest regret was that he was ejected from Storehouse before he could realise his dreams for the group that also includes BHS, Mothercare, Richards and Blazer. He said he felt undermined by Michael Julien, the chief executive he appointed, who stepped down just two years later because of poor health.

Sir Terence said: "I think it would have been different under someone else. Someone else may have respected my talents. My greatest regret is the hundreds of really terrific people who believed in the business and who have gone for no good reason."

While he is disappointed about Storehouse and the failure of Bude's Wharf, one of his private businesses, Sir Terence has been comforted by the success of several smaller ventures, such as The Conran Shop, his restaurants, Blueprint Café, Bibendum and Le Pont de la Tour, as well as Conran Ritchie and Benchmark, his design businesses.

He is irritated immensely to be portrayed as one of the 1990s' disaster stories. "I don't mind criticism, heaven knows I wouldn't still be here if I did, but I have suffered an awful lot recently through inaccurate information and implication," he said.

If Sir Terence and his unnamed partners are successful, it will be the third time the designer has brought Habitat within his orbit. He merged the chain with Rymann, the office supplier, in the sixties, bought it back and, after a very successful run in the



Master of style: Sir Terence believes Habitat can only succeed in Britain by getting back to the basics

seventies, floated the company on the stock exchange and spent the next ten years adding a string of retail businesses — the biggest venture being the merger with BHS in 1985. This is where Sir Terence came unstuck: too much growth too quickly, culminating in his being ousted.

David Dworkin has succeeded Michael Julien as chief executive of Storehouse and wasted no time in picking over the group, pinpointing the bits he wishes to develop. Habitat is not one of them.

The chain lost £8.8 million last year and £11.9 million previously. While the bulk of these losses were incurred in America, the British business is flat, directionless and needs patience and a cash injection to try to recapture market share. The bright spot is Habitat's 37 stores in France which are hugely profitable.

Mr Dworkin reshuffled senior management in May, resulting in the departure of Michael Harvey, Habitat's chairman and chief executive, David Sims, Storehouse's finance director, is the new chair-

man. Goldman Sachs, the Wall Street investment bank handling the Habitat sale, is speaking to a handful of prospective bidders. Sir Terence is coy about naming his partners — he described one as "international" and the other as "European" — but one of them is believed to be Antah European Holdings, the Malaysian company that controls the Carpenters furniture chain in England. Sir Terence stressed he and his partners are only interested in buying the French and British stores.

Pricing Habitat is difficult. In America, there are £19 million of net assets which may be written off to nothing and the business shut down. There are no bidders for the US business as such, however there is at least one party interested in buying it simply for the properties.

In France, Habitat has net assets of £48.8 million and a thriving business which Sir Terence says is still operating according to his original blueprint. The British chain of 40 stores

has stagnated but the goodwill seems to be intact.

Indeed, in the UK the Habitat name has high awareness out of all proportion to turnover. In the year to the end of March, combined sales for the three businesses were £201.2 million. In Britain, turnover was about £60 million, depressed by store closures and the economic climate. Since 1989, the number of shops in Britain have been cut by a third.

Sir Terence said: "It is a brand worth reviving. There is a lot of goodwill, and, nurtured carefully, the business can once again get back to basics."

Basics are what the designer believes the British Habitat has abandoned. Asked what he would do to resuscitate the chain, Sir Terence said he would make sure all the designs are "basic, useful and high quality".

"The English Habitat has become a series of decorator shops. They try to be high fashion and this is a recipe for disaster in this environment. There is an incredible backlog of stock and styles change before it is cleared. They

should not have abandoned the original catalogue concept."

Retail analysts believe Storehouse should accept any reasonable offer which is earnings enhancing, particularly since the group has another loss maker in Mothercare. Mr Dworkin, however, seems keen to resuscitate that chain, replacing the chief executive and employing Liz Davies as chief buyer. Mrs Davies and her husband George formed the Next chain in 1981. As one broker said: "Just getting the losses and exceptional charges off the books is almost enough." One report said Storehouse was hoping to reap £100 million, but this week no one at Storehouse was putting a price tag on the business, which it wants to sell by September 30.

Smith New Court and County NatWest have both suggested that the shops in France are worth a significant sum while those in Britain have no real value at all. Netting one off against the other indicates a purchase price of about £30 million.

Verdict Research believes Habitat has a long way to go but recent measures to improve distribution, reduce stock and cut staff numbers were moves in the right direction. Verdict also believes product quality is improving but the marketing platform is unimpressive and there is poor product awareness.

The store portfolio is also highlighted as a big problem. Verdict suggests "the Habitat format lends itself to the high street rather than out-of-town retailing and it only has 33 high street stores... many of which are well below the 15,000 sq ft the company needs to provide an offer which has impact".

Habitat should win back the business it has lost to IKEA, the Swedish chain, by refocusing and targeting the high street leaving IKEA to sell on volume in out-of-town megastores.

Sir Terence, say the analysts, has the eye for detail and marketing flair that could lift Habitat out of the doldrums. The Conran Shop in Fulham Road is a unique example of his vision, and a Parisian outlet is opening on October 8. "It's a bit smaller at 25,000 sq ft, but it's the same formula with some French dressing," Sir Terence said. His next two personal ventures will be the opening later this year of Cantina, a smart fish shop, followed by Quaglin's, on Valentine's Day. The latter is a mega brasserie offering up to 400 covers.

When Habitat was formed in 1964 "I wanted one really terrific shop showing how it could be done," Sir Terence said. The first Habitat, which was also in London's Fulham Road, sold everything for the home. "The atmosphere was very like The Conran Shop today," he said.

"I have made mistakes. I've never managed to get around me people who were able to run the administrative side of the business as efficiently as it should have been run. That's not my talent. I know it has to be done and the criticism could be made that I've picked poor people."

Maybe this will be third time lucky for Sir Terence.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Accounting for analysts

THE two sides in the Terry Smith Accounting for Growth affair were becoming even more entrenched yesterday, with bemused clients of the firm receiving a two-page letter from Rudi Mueller and Hector Sans, of UBS Phillips & Drew, claiming that most of the work in the original book, produced internally a year ago, was the work of Richard Hannah, an analyst, and saying that suggestions that they had tried to stop the book because of pressure from clients were "ill-founded and objectionable". Smith, meanwhile, after a book signing session at Harrods, declared: "I think I can prove otherwise. I'm enjoying my Harrods tea and I hope they are enjoying their afternoon at work." Adding further to the intrigue, Smith, still officially suspended from his duties at UBS, has now learned that on Tuesday, the entire research department was summoned to a meeting to be informed that a new head of research would be appointed next week. Compounding the situation, UBS has also effectively suspended Sally Dell, Smith's secretary, who had been with the firm for ten years. "She has been ordered to take two weeks' holiday," says Smith. Fueling the controversy further, Smith says that Mueller had ordered 350 copies of the book to be sent to clients, and he remains adamant that Mueller changed his stance only after receiving complaints from clients. "When he instructed me to stop the book I reminded



him that I had a contract with the publisher and he told me to offer them a large sum of money. There didn't appear to be any limit to it."

Crossed wires

THERE was fury on Baker Street yesterday, after Abbey National put out a Stock Exchange announcement, via *Excel*, and then could not get the wire service to say what it was transmitting. The Abbey men were even more annoyed to learn that their announcement about the "phased retirement" of Richard Baglin, a director, had been turned into a resignation with Baglin — 50 in October — described as head of the Abbey's troubled estate agency. Although in overall charge of the Cornerstone agency, it is run by another man. At one point, the dispute appeared to have the makings of a UBS Phillips & Drew II. Extel's report ended with a comment from "an analyst" that if the Abbey was getting rid of dead wood it should also look at Sir Christo-

pher Tugendhat, its chairman, in view of his proposal for a government housing bail out. The Abbey was clearly anxious to discover the identity of that analyst. Dr John Wriglesworth, one of the most frequently quoted followers of the sector — from UBS P&D — is on holiday in the Algarve and out of telephone contact.

Vintage thoughts

WHO said the City was out of touch with industry? Two senior Lloyd's brokers, David Moore and ex-Middlesex cricketer Billy Dewall, both employed by Alexander Stenhouse, were overheard discussing the depth of the recession at Eton's Wine Bar, Mincing Lane, yesterday. As they did so, they managed to down two bottles of vintage Veuve Clicquot, one of 1982 (£40 a bottle) and one of 1985 (£36). With the second bottle, their talk of redundancies and receiverships was increasingly interrupted with observations about the differences between the two vintages, and the two eventually agreed that the 1982 was "over the top" and the 1985 "ready for drinking". The irony of their conversation was extraordinary, says my mole.

Boston tea party? A reader spotted the following in yesterday's *European*. "The QE2, which is undergoing repairs in Boston, along with other liners, and London's Ritz hotel, could be included in merger plans being considered by the British-based Trafalgar House group."

CAROL LEONARD

BUSINESS LETTERS

Borrowing is route to recovery

From R. J. C. Wait
Sir, It is depressing to see the Bank of England in its *Quarterly Bulletin* lending its weight to the notion that economic recovery depends on consumers and homeowners feeling that they have sufficiently reduced their debt burdens and deciding to plunge into a new orgy of consumer credit.

Cannot the authorities understand that an increase in consumer spending and house purchase can only safely come from the spending of newly earned wages and salaries as unemployment is reduced?

Instead of relying on consumers to start borrowing again, it would be much more productive for the government to do the borrowing to finance an increased capital invest-

ment programme. Such borrowing, instead of merely financing current consumption, would both increase employment and produce durable assets to help the future growth of the economy.

The blindness of the authorities in this regard seems to stem from their practice of lumping borrowing for consumption and borrowing for investment together in one figure called the public sector borrowing requirement. The economic consequences of these two types of borrowing are quite different, and they should be shown completely separately.

Yours faithfully,
R. J. C. WAIT,
Grove Cottage,
Weston Park,
Bath,
Avon.

Maastricht and the price of sovereignty

From Mr Simon Palmer
Sir, We chose to join the EC, although some would argue that the choosing was not done wholly through the dem-

ocratic process. We then became part of the exchange-rate mechanism, believing that by joining that particular league it would avoid the wild fluctuations a floating pound might suffer. We had not reckoned for joining with a German economy, weakened by uniting with their erstwhile communist neighbours, and are suffering accordingly. But in true British style we remain faithful to the cause.

What I find completely irrational and have difficulty in accepting is the mess we might find ourselves in if after September 20 the French vote "no" to the Maastricht treaty.

It cannot be right that the destiny of our ailing economy is to be decided by the French. What price sovereignty? Yours faithfully,
SIMON PALMER,
Publicity Management Ltd,
39-41 Gray's Inn Road, WC1.

Crumbs of comfort

From Mr Nicholas Salaman
Sir, Your headline in the *Business Times* of August 19 asserts "Recovery hinges on consumer spending". Nonsense does not acquire the status of truth just because so many people repeat it. Surely it is obvious to anyone with a milligram of commonsense that recovery in this country hinges on our importing less and exporting more. Anything else is mere politicians' pabulum.

Yours,
NICHOLAS SALAMAN,
Flat 6,
62 Elm Park Gardens, SW10.

NEW INVESTMENT RATES FROM THE CHESHIRE FROM 21ST AUGUST 1992

PREMIUM 100				
£100,000+	INTEREST PAID	GROSS RATE	NET RATE	GROSS C.A.R.*
£50,000+	Annually	10.75%	8.00%	—
£25,000+	Annually	10.50%	7.88%	—
£10,000+	Annually	10.00%	7.50%	—
PREMIUM 60				
£50,000+	INTEREST PAID	GROSS RATE	NET RATE	GROSS C.A.R.*
£25,000+	Annually	10.00%	7.50%	—
£10,000+	Annually	9.25%	6.90%	—
£5,000+	Annually	8.75%	6.50%	—
PREMIUM 60 INCOME				
£50,000+	INTEREST PAID	GROSS RATE	NET RATE	GROSS C.A.R.*
£25,000+	Monthly	9.50%	7.18%	10.00%
£10,000+	Monthly	8.88%	6.66%	9.25%
£5,000+	Monthly	8.42%	6.32%	8.75%
£2,500+	Monthly	8.10%	6.14%	8.50%
£1,250+	Monthly	7.72%	5.79%	8.00%
PREMIUM ACCESS				
£50,000+	INTEREST PAID	GROSS RATE	NET RATE	GROSS C.A.R.*
£25,000+	Annually	9.10%	6.83%	—
£10,000+	Annually	8.85%	6.64%	—
£5,000+	Annually	8.60%	6.45%	—
£2,500+	Annually	7.85%	5.89%	—
£1,250+	Annually	7.60%	5.70%	—
£1+	Annually	7.40%	5.55%	—
£1+	Annually	1.60%	1.50%	—

CLOSED ISSUES

SUPERSHARE PLUS				
£30,000+	INTEREST PAID	GROSS RATE	NET RATE	GROSS C.A.R.*
£10,000+	Annually	7.55%	5.68%	—
£5,000+	Annually	7.30%	5.49%	—
£1,000+	Annually	7.15%	5.36%	—
£1+	Annually	6.75%	5.06%	—
£1+	Annually	1.50%	1.13%	—
£30,000+	INTEREST PAID	GROSS RATE	NET RATE	GROSS C.A.R.*
£10,000+	Monthly	7.30%	5.48%	7.55%
£5,000+	Monthly	7.07%	5.30%	7.30%
£1,000+	Monthly	6.93%	5.20%	7.15%
£1+	Monthly	6.55%	4.91%	6.75%

The gross rates of interest on all other closed issue accounts will be reduced by 0.5% per annum. Full details of all investment accounts are available from any branch office of the Society, or from the Customer Service Centre, at the address shown below.

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Annual interest is payable on 31st December and half yearly interest is payable on 30th June and 31st December. Interest will be paid on the basis of the actual number of days in the year. Interest is subject to the Society's discretion. Interest is not payable on amounts which are not invested in the Society's funds. Interest is not payable on amounts which are not invested in the Society's funds. Interest is not payable on amounts which are not invested in the Society's funds.

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Sterling depresses shares

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began August 10. Dealings end today. Settlement day September 1. Forwarded bargains are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

Portfolio PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page. Add them up to give you your overall gain and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the daily prize money. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when planning. Come rules appear on the back of your card.

No	Company	Group	Cash or Notes
1	Wentworth SG	Bank/Disc	
2	Uni Resources	Foods	
3	Haywood Wm	Building/Rtd	
4	Thames Water	Water	
5	S & S Stores	Drugs/Sps	
6	Swain Off Leads	Property	
7	ITV Group	Leisure	
8	BAT	Tobacco	
9	NFC	Transport	
10	Solihull Water	Water	
11	Power Corp	Property	
12	Inchcape	Industrial	
13	Cook (Wm)	Industrial	
14	Portals	Industrial	
15	Campano Gp	Leisure	
16	Reuners	Insurance	
17	GKN	Industrial	
18	Unilever	Industrial	
19	Enam	Drugs/Sps	
20	Creighton Nt	Industrial	
21	CIA G	Print, Paper	
22	Flux Leasing	Leisure	
23	Mudosa	Industrial	
24	Grazzada	Insurance	
25	Kleinwort Ben	Bank/Disc	
26	Enterprise	Gas, Gas	
27	Halina	Industrial	
28	Wm & A Co	Breweries	
29	Lut (Arthur)	Industrial	
30	Sevens Trust	Water	
31	Wich Water	Water	
32	Sainsbury J	Foods	
33	Kode	Electrical	
34	Grampian Hld	Industrial	
35	Admiral	Electrical	
36	LBMS	Electrical	
37	BPP	Newspaper/Pub	
38	Thames	Building/Rtd	
39	Boots	Industrial	
40	Meyer Int	Building/Rtd	
41	Br Aerospac	Munition/Air	
42	Eng China Cl	Industrial	
43	Queens Mnt	Hotels/Cas	
44	Canbury-Schw	Foods	
© Times Newspapers Ltd.			Total

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN

Mr Ian Shayer, of Amersham, Buckinghamshire, won the £2,000 Portfolio Platinum prize yesterday.

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

1992	High	Low	Company	Price	High	Low	Company	Price	High	Low
1	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
2	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
3	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
4	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
5	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
6	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
7	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
8	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00

BREWERIES

1992	High	Low	Company	Price	High	Low	Company	Price	High	Low
1	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
2	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
3	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
4	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
5	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
6	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
7	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
8	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00

BUILDING, ROADS

1992	High	Low	Company	Price	High	Low	Company	Price	High	Low
1	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
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3	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
4	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
5	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
6	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
7	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
8	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

1992	High	Low	Company	Price	High	Low	Company	Price	High	Low
1	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
2	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
3	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
4	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
5	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
6	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
7	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
8	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00

DRAPERY, STORES

1992	High	Low	Company	Price	High	Low	Company	Price	High	Low
1	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
2	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
3	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
4	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
5	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
6	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
7	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
8	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00

ELECTRICALS

1992	High	Low	Company	Price	High	Low	Company	Price	High	Low
1	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
2	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
3	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
4	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
5	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
6	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
7	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
8	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00

INDUSTRIALS

1992	High	Low	Company	Price	High	Low	Company	Price	High	Low
1	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
2	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
3	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
4	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
5	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
6	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
7	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
8	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00

INSURANCE

1992	High	Low	Company	Price	High	Low	Company	Price	High	Low
1	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
2	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
3	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
4	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
5	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
6	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
7	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
8	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00

FINANCE, LAND

1992	High	Low	Company	Price	High	Low	Company	Price	High	Low
1	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
2	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
3	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
4	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
5	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
6	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
7	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
8	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00

FOODS

1992	High	Low	Company	Price	High	Low	Company	Price	High	Low
1	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
2	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
3	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
4	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
5	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
6	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
7	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
8	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00

ELECTRICITY

Liquor Company				1992	1991	1990	1989	1988	1987
1	128	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
2	129	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
3	130	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
4	131	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
5	132	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
6	133	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
7	134	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
8	135	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
9	136	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
10	137	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
11	138	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
12	139	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
13	140	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
14	141	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
15	142	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
16	143	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
17	144	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
18	145	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
19	146	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
20	147	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
21	148	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
22	149	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
23	150	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
24	151	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
25	152	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
26	153	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
27	154	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
28	155	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
29	156	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
30	157	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
31	158	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
32	159	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
33	160	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
34	161	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
35	162	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
36	163	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
37	164	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
38	165	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
39	166	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
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41	168	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
42	169	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
43	170	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
44	171	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
45	172	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
46	173	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
47	174	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
48	175	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
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63	190	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
64	191	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
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89	216	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
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96	223	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
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99	226	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
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103	230	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
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130	257	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
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135	262	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
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137	264	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
138	265	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
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142	269	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
143	270	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
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146	273	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
147	274	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
148	275	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
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151	278	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
152	279	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
153	280	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
154	281	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
155	282	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
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161	288	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
162	289	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
163	290	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
164	291	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
165	292	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
166	293	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
167	294	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
168	295	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
169	296	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
170	297	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
171	298	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
172	299	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
173	300	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
174	301	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
175	302	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
176	303	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
177	304	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
178	305	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
179	306	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
180	307	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
181	308	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
182	309	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
183	310	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
184	311	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
185	312	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
186	313	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
187	314	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
188	315	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
189	316	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
190	317	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
191	318	Univest		130	---	---	---	---	---
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Only two regions see start-ups rise

By Rodney Hobson

ONLY Greater London and the North West are showing an increase in small business start-ups, according to a report by the small business unit at Barclays Bank.

In Greater London, just under 55,000 new ventures were set up in the first half of 1992, an 8.8 per cent rise over the corresponding six months of 1991. The North West managed a 2.9 per cent improvement to about 20,500 start-ups, Barclays estimates. The figures compare with a 2.6 per cent decline in new small businesses nationwide.

Barclays says the explanations for the divergence are complex. One possibility is that industries within the service sector, which accounts for 40 per cent of VAT-registered small businesses, are showing some signs of recovery. This is having an impact on Greater London, where the service sector is more heavily concentrated.

London and the South East also have a larger number of well-qualified people. Computer services (up 3.9 per cent), legal services

(up 1.4 per cent) and personal services such as hairdressing and dry cleaning (up 0.3 per cent) have all seen increases in the number of people in employment since March 1991.

The South East, where services are also strong, saw start-ups decline by only 0.7 per cent to 53,800. Hardest hit has been Scotland, with a 16.3 per cent fall in new businesses. Other declining regions were East Anglia (down 11.3 per cent), Wales (8.9), South West (8.8), Midlands (8.7) and the North and Yorkshire (6.8).

The figures are relieved by a decline in the level of business closures in the second quarter of 1992, the third consecutive quarterly fall. About 126,000 small businesses fell by the wayside in April-June, the lowest quarterly total since October-December 1990. Over the first six months of the year receiverships are down 6.7 per cent to 2,718. Five times as many companies closed down in an orderly fashion, many as a result of being sold or taken over.

Smaller companies 'need management skills'

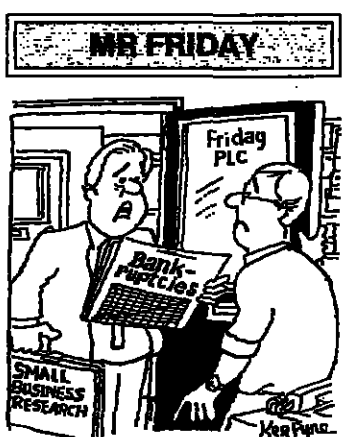
By Derek Harris

AFTER nine years of counselling small businesses, Gordon Mackenzie, director of Nottinghamshire Business Venture, the enterprise agency, is still disappointed at the level of management skills among entrepreneurs.

When he first got to grips with small business problems he was "shocked and saddened" at the lack of such skills he says in *Small Business Digest*, the quarterly small business guide published by National Westminster Bank. It is the last edition of the *Digest*, being wound up after 11 years because NatWest believes that, with so many current guides, the *Digest's* pioneering job has been done.

Skill in management is crucial, yet Mr Mackenzie asks, how many small business heads have not been trained for the role? He goes on: "It is no use talking of a profit plan or cash flow projections unless the business person wants to understand these tools and recognises the value of using them. None will be of any use unless meet-or-beat sales

targets can be established." He admits this is difficult for newly established businesses during a recession. Yet, if no realistic targets are set, then a business simply does not know where it is going.



"We've researched and you're the only one we could find!"

Towards better standards

By Sally Watts

A SMALL Hertfordshire business that grew out of a trade department experiment is, with the help of EC funding, holding quality clinics until the end of this year to raise the standards of even smaller enterprises. Polyfield Services is on the campus of the University of Hertfordshire, the former Hatfield Polytechnic. In the mid-1980s, its forerunner, the Small Manufacturing Industries Development Association (Smida), helped to improve the industrial performance of smaller firms through access to polytechnic facilities and expertise.

Projects included a pilot scheme, underwritten by the trade department, to provide a quality assurance service. Dr Alan Younger, who ran Smida while working as reader in industrial engineering, had the idea of developing the quality aspect into an independent business.

Although still at the Hatfield campus, Polyfield operates separately, paying the going rate for the premises it rents and the services it uses, such as the library. It began with two professionals and a secretary. Today, there are 15 full-time staff, nine of them professionals — graduates or chartered engineers who have assessed or lead assessor status with the Institute of Quality Assurance. Most have at least ten years' industrial experience. Staff are not employed by the university.

The company has its own salary arrangements, pensions scheme, non-executive directors, accountants and lawyers. Consultation is available for larger enterprises, but for firms with fewer than 50 employees, the business works on a subscription, or quality share, basis. Clients book half a day a month, or one day or more, of a



Helping hand: Dr Alan Younger had the idea of developing the quality aspect independently

manager's time, usually for six months or a year. The current daily rate of £320 includes the professional's time, expertise and travelling costs, plus secretarial and support services.

Dr Younger says: "We provide a package by putting in a part-time manager, who can draw on a number of specialists, as we offer skills such as independent audit or advice on statistical process control."

As managing director, he has moved from academic to full-time

businessman. He added: "Businesses have heard of total quality management and want help with this, or with training to reach BS7750."

During the next few months, it is partnering the university on an EC training project for small and medium-sized enterprises, using a £21,000 European grant to develop clinics for micro-businesses. These will analyse, teach and provide programmes for owners and employees to take away.

Polyfield Services is owned by the

colleges' charitable trust. The company markets itself strongly and, with a decline in the manufacturing industries it originally served, it has developed in services and the professions. It also works with chambers of commerce and is moving into health, education, food and safety.

Dr Younger says: "We have an enormous spread of industries, mainly in the Home Counties and East Anglia. Our hope is to increase the size, range and volume of our services."

Couple run a language centre from home

By Christopher Browne

DENNIS Jefferies and his wife, Jackie, have for five years been running a language centre at their home in Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, after Mr Jefferies retired from an English leavership.

The students are typically from abroad and the Jefferies were dealing with up to 30 a year by the end of the third year. Annual turnover was then running at about £20,000. That third year turned out to be the best because the Gulf war came and many foreign students stopped travelling. The Jefferies were hit in

common with other English language teaching establishments.

Mr Jefferies said: "This year we shall be down to 15 students. We have been doing some promotion — a mail shot produced one new student — and some others have come in from Germany. So the business could be coming back. We're now more hopeful."

The Jefferies had entered the business through chance. They saw a newspaper advertisement for an English language school that needed teachers to take foreign students into their own homes and decided to give it a try. The Jefferies enjoyed

it and planned a language centre at a new house they wanted to buy in Lincolnshire. However, the sale of their Walton home fell through. Using their Walton home in the event proved a good idea because of its accessibility to London's Heathrow and Gatwick airports and the capital's own amenities.

Students at first came by recommendation and this has remained an important element. At peak times during the summer up to six students will be accommodated at the centre. Most stay two weeks, although occasionally the Jefferies have had students spending up to

two months improving their English. There are between three and five lessons a day and the students can also videos and computerised teaching games.

The Jefferies have catered for students from six countries — Spain, Italy, France, Germany, Sweden and Japan — and have a minimum age limit of 16. Early on, they found younger teenagers "rather a handful".

Four spare bedrooms, two of them doubles, give the centre capacity for six students. A local English teacher has helped out when needed at seasonal peaks.

BRIEFINGS

□ Strategies to prepare for economic recovery will be discussed at the 16th national conference of the Small Business Bureau on October 14. Issues will include the commitment of banks to small business, the role of equity funding and information technology. Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade, and Gillian Shephard, the employment secretary, will attend the conference, at Lakeside Country Club, Frimley Green, Surrey.

Details: Katharine Latham on 071-976 7262. □ The problems of starting a business based on technology are dealt with in a book that may be the first of its kind. Duncan Mathews, the senior manager of the National Westminster Bank's technology unit, commissioned the book because he could not find a publication covering the needs of technology enterprises. *Starting A Technology Business*, by Dr John C. Allen, is published by Pitman at £27.50.

□ A survey of ethical practices in small businesses is being mounted by Dr Shalendra Vyakarnam, an enterprise lecturer at Cranfield School of Management. Replies to Dr Vyakarnam at the CSM at Cranfield, Beds, MK43 0AL, or fax 0234 751806.

□ A free fact sheet on sources of finance for small firms and start-ups has been produced by Solotec, the South London Training and Enterprise Council. Running to eight pages, it notes a wide range of sources from charitable trusts to EC grants and loans. For copies, telephone 081-313 9232.

□ Customs & Excise information sheets show how the single European market will demand changes to the operation of VAT for most businesses. A revised leaflet, *Filling In Your VAT Returns*, has also been produced as a guide to filling in returns. More details and copies of leaflets are available at local Excise and VAT offices.

□ One-day workshops on vital business skills are being mounted by Essex TEC at centres in Basildon, Chelmsford, Colchester, Harlow and Southend. The workshops are free to new owners who have attended the TEC's start-up programmes, otherwise there is a modest charge. □ A handbook on starting a business in Birmingham has been produced by Birmingham Venture. The handbook is free, but a 45p stamp is required for postage. Contact: 021-454 6171.

EDITOR DEREK HARRIS

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INFOTECH TIMES

Is CD piracy on the horizon?

Two digital audio recorders about to come on to the market have the music industry worried, reports George Cole

Computer software companies have suffered from it for years. The ability to make perfect copies of their products quickly and simply has led them to argue that they are losing a fortune from people making illicit copies of their programs.

By the end of this year the music industry could be facing a similar problem with the launch of two new digital audio systems that will enable people to make near-perfect copies of compact discs. CD copying is expected to prove particularly popular because of a widespread perception among the public that CDs are often too expensive, especially as they cost no more to manufacture than a vinyl LP but can cost nearly double the price to buy.

The introduction of the two new systems, the Digital Compact Cassette (DCC) and Mini Disc, is being viewed by the music industry with mixed feelings.

The DCC has been developed by Philips, the Dutch consumer electronics company, and stores 90 minutes of CD digital-quality sound on a cassette. The Mini Disc, which holds an hour and a quarter on a 2.5-inch disc, is produced by Sony, the Japanese company. Both formats will make it possible for anyone to make copies of prerecorded CDs that are virtually indistinguishable from the original.

Once in mass production, the new digital recorders should be relatively cheap, with initial prices of around £350 expected to fall sharply if one of the formats takes off. Blank tapes and discs will cost £5 each, compared with an average price of £12 for a prerecorded CD.

Other digital recording systems are also on the way and in a few years digital broadcasting will present another threat to the music industry, with its promise of interference and hiss-free broadcasts of CD-sound quality.

"We are not Luddites when it comes to new technology," says Mark Kingston, spokesman for the music industry trade body, the International Federation of the Phonographic Industry (IFPI). "But we want protection and compensation for digital audio technology."

Private copying and professional piracy are already said to have cost the industry millions of pounds, but the advent of the high-quality sound of compact discs created a breathing space, even the more expensive cassette recorders cannot produce copies to rival the sound quality of CDs.

Ever since the first home tape recorders became widely available



High-performance digital recorders are causing concern in the music industry which says that piracy is costing it millions

during the 1960s, the music industry has searched for a system which would prevent listeners from copying records on to tape.

The first deterrent explored was a spoiler system which recorded a high-frequency signal on to a record or cassette. Although listeners would not be able to hear the signal, special circuitry inside a tape recorder would detect it and prevent the recording. However, the spoiler system did not work in practice.

During the CD's development phase, designers Philips and Sony made provision for an anti-copy system which inserted a special code into the digital sound system. Digital recorders, equipped with the appropriate circuitry, would sense the code and fail to record.

But few CD manufacturers ever bothered to make use of the system.

In 1987, Japanese hardware companies were ready to launch Digital Audio Tape (DAT), which stores several hours of CD-quality sound on a credit-card-sized cassette. However, the music industry objected to DAT and refused to release prerecorded music in that format.

The record companies also used the threat of legal action to prevent consumer DAT players able to make digital copies from being sold in Europe and America. The new

formats will allow proper digital copies to be made, although users will be unable to make copies of a copy but can make as many copies as they want from an original disc or tape.

"There is no perfect technological solution to private copying. So we have to look for some form of compensation for the loss of royalties," says Mark Kingston.

Earlier this year, an investigation by the Office of Fair Trading (OFT) concluded that consumers were not being overcharged for CDs, although it has since launched another enquiry into pricing.

"It is difficult to say that all CDs are overpriced because there are lots of budget-priced discs around," John Bunkle, a London-based music journalist, says. "However, I do think that the record companies are taking advantage of their prime products, such as big-name artists."

"I do not believe that at the moment most home-recording is done to avoid paying for originals. Most people copy music to play in the car or on a personal stereo."

Mr Kingston disagrees. "Sales of blank tapes have grown at a phenomenal rate and they are not all used for recording baby's first words or bird song. There has also been a rise in the number of CD-rental stores in countries such as Japan, Germany and Holland, where people can borrow discs and copy them."

The music industry also wants royalties from digital broadcasts and digital radios which the BBC plans to launch in 1995.

The music industry currently receives around £52 million per year from around the world for broadcasting royalties.

In the UK, Phonographic Performance Ltd (PPL) collects royalties from broadcasting organisations on behalf of the record companies, but some countries, such as the United States and Luxembourg, do not have similar royalty systems.

It is a position that the music industry is determined to change. "We can survive without the broadcasting industry, but the reverse is not true," Mr Kingston says.

Needless to say, it is a viewpoint that many in the music industry disagree with. "LP records are cheaper than CDs and that has not stopped people from taping them," David Munns, senior vice president for pop marketing at Polygram International, says.

Mr Munns hopes that DCC's special features will reduce copying. "DCC has a text-mode feature which can display song lyrics and track listings. If you copy a DCC tape you lose the text-mode feature which is an incentive for people to buy an original tape."

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'LP records are cheaper than CDs and that has not stopped people from taping them' - David Munns

Telecommunications failure can spell disaster in the business world

Keeping the lines open

Telecommunications has become such a critical element in business and personal routine that any breakdown is likely to have serious consequences.

Disruptions to telephone networks are not new but, now that advanced systems carry such high volumes of calls, a single network failure affects more people and activities than ever before. As a result, service reliability is becoming a priority, particularly to business users.

The scale of the problem was highlighted at Commercial Union's headquarters. The building was one of the most severely damaged following the massive IRA bomb attack in the City of London, on April 10. About 140 companies were affected in some way by the blast, in what is one of the world's busiest commercial centres.

Such major disruptions are rare, but it can and does happen that network cables are inadvertently cut by work crews. There are also occasional failures of the increasingly sophisticated software used to control networks and exchanges.

Both British Telecom and Mercury show extremely low network failure rates per year. But as liberalisation of the telecoms market heats up, this may also bring with it an increase in network failures as more networks mean more opportunities for problems.

In the United States, air travellers were marooned in New York City area airports last September when the telephone network failed. An AT&T switch in lower Manhattan lost power and severed the link to the Federal Aviation Administration's network. With air traffic controllers cut off from one another, nothing moved in or out of three major airports for hours. Additionally, some 5.5 million long-distance calls which originated or terminated in New York were blocked for about eight hours. The effect on the city's business and personal communications was profound.

As a result, the New York City Mayor's office developed a public network disaster recovery plan, which is ready to be activated in the event of a major telecommunications "outage" as they are called. New York, which

has been particularly troubled by outages in recent years, is the first metropolitan area to implement such a plan. It is an idea some British consultants say will soon become necessary for the UK.

In New York, a consortium has formed a mutual aid and restoration agreement that has 13 competitive telecommunications carriers, including AT&T, MCI Communications Corp. and US Sprint's long-distance division, willing to provide back-up services for each other.

Under the agreement, if a member of the consortium determines that critical telecommunications facilities have failed within New York or on routes into and out of the city, it must notify the New York City Department of Telecommunications and Energy, which declares a state of emergency if service is not restored within two hours.

One or more of the consortium members will provide emergency communications for up to seven consecutive days, and that service will be made available immediately to the "failed" carrier's customers.

Mike Higgins, manager of international telecoms support for Chemical Bank, said his company is a participant in the New York City task force.

"Here in the UK, Chemical is currently reviewing its network services. After the City bombing, no one can afford to be complacent. We are requesting carriers to submit to us actual network diagrams of complete routing of network services. Both BT and Mercury are willing to provide this and we feel satisfactory contingency plans will result."

Richard Cox, of Mandarin Technology, an independent telecommunications consultancy, said such a task force would be useful because risk management is about risk assessment.

"We are unlikely to have trunk network failure here, but local failure is a concern," he said. "With the coming increase in new network operators and the growing army of mobile operators and personal communications network operators, it might be wise if they got together and developed a plan for reacting to disasters in a coherent and co-ordinated way."

EILEEN REINHARD

About 140 companies were affected in some way by the IRA bomb blast in the City of London

Wang misread the signs

The announcement that the once mighty computer company Wang had filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in the United States gave a nasty jolt to much of the computer industry.

Although the severity of Wang's problems had been known for some time - and it had long been considered one of the weakest companies in the field - its fall has focused the minds of the many executives whose companies have also been reporting financial losses and who are worried that Wang may be the first of many. The message is that everyone is at risk in a market where technology changes as dramatically as it does, says Thomas Willmott, an analyst with the Aberdeen Group in Boston.

Like a few other major companies, Wang failed to realise the importance of the advent of the personal computer, believing it was only a small part of the market and not realising how fast it would make certain other computer systems obsolete.

The rapidly growing power levels of personal computers mean that, at a fraction of the cost, they are increasingly performing tasks that used to take rooms full of equipment. It has meant that every serious computer company has been forced to become involved in

The fall of a computer firm that was once among the market leaders has shaken the industry

them. However, the fierce price competition in the field has created a situation where, in terms of making money, many companies would prefer not to be selling PCs. Profit margins are small and some manufacturers are having to sell at least some of their products at a loss.

A few companies do still manage to make healthy profits out of personal computers. The mail-order pioneer, Dell Computer, for example, announced this week that had profits jumped by 77 per cent for the past three months compared with the same period a year ago, and sales had increased 129 per cent.

The majority of companies, however, are more interested in trying to increase their share of revenue from computer services rather than selling computer hardware. Typical

of this is the decision, announced on Tuesday, of IBM, the world's biggest computer company, to create a £500 million joint-venture company with Sears Roebuck, the huge retail firm.

The new company, Advantage, will provide big businesses with telephone and data transmission, including services for electronic or paperless trading, electronic mail and "transaction processing" (such as authorising credit-card purchases at cash registers).

Both IBM and Sears have sold time individually on their networks - a process known as "outsourcing" which is aimed at companies that do not want to spend money building their own computer and telephone networks or have the time and bother of managing them.

They will combine these operations through the new company which will provide services to 550 cities in 92 countries. It already has 9,000 customers and, as analysts point out, will have two important clients - IBM and Sears - from the outset. The two companies have several links. Sears is an important IBM computer customer, and the two jointly own Prodigy, an information network for personal computer users.

The potential of this fusion of communications and computers has not been lost on telephone companies also eager to take a share of a market that is predicted to grow by 30 per cent a year.

BT, for example, was this week claiming a world first in international telecommunications with a deal to manage a European network for BP Chemicals. The network will be used for order entry, processing, production scheduling, delivery and invoicing.

MATTHEW MAY

High-cost copiers

COWBOY salesmen are pushing contracts for photocopyers with many hidden costs, the Confederation of British Industry (CBI) reports. The costs can be so punishing that some firms that have signed up have gone bust as a result.

As the summer holidays are in full swing, and many senior staff are away, companies need to be extremely vigilant about smooth-talking salesmen offering "free" photocopying machine gimmicks with a service agreement providing for payment at an agreed rate for copies that can work out at an extortionate price, the CBI says.

"With businesses not being considered consumers for the purpose of the Consumer Credit Act, they are unable to break the contract when they realise what they have signed up for," Judith Vincent, the CBI's head of company law, says.

"Many contracts can last up to nine years. The lifespan of a photocopying machine is often only three years, but the customer remains bound."

Ever-ready robot. A JAPANESE firm is designing a robot that vacuum cleans a room and then tucks itself away to recharge its batteries.

Matsushita Electric Industrial, the world's largest consumer electronics firm, said that the Home Cleaning Robot will go on sale after development is completed next year. A prototype comes equipped with an ultrasonic sensor that detects and dodges

obstacles. Other sensors determine the type of floor or rug to be cleaned so that the nozzle can be adjusted accordingly and regulate the suction power based on the amount of dust detected. After cleaning up, the 40-lb dome-shaped robot returns to its charging station. An industrial version is likely to start at £8,000, although a cheaper domestic model is also planned.

Men at work

THE Department of Transport is asking interested companies to submit tenders for a computerised street and roadworks register intended to reduce disruption caused by utilities such as gas, electricity and cable-TV companies. About 500 organisations are expected to make use of the service, to start in 1994.

Information on the register will be distributed to local authorities, utilities and others in the hope it will prevent one organisation digging up the same part of a street two weeks after another has just finished.

Sematech budget

THE Pentagon plans to cut the budget for Sematech, a

consortium created in 1987 with public and private investment to improve semiconductor technology.

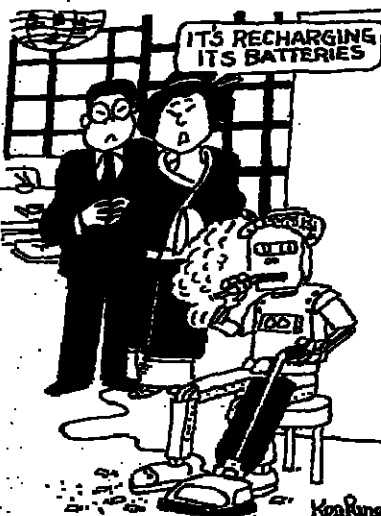
Financing for semiconductor research will be reduced from £50m to £40m a year, a sum that Sematech will have to share with other government projects.

The companies involved in the consortium - ATT, Digital Equipment, Hewlett-Packard, Intel, IBM, Motorola, National Semiconductor, NCR and Texas Instruments - are also cutting back their contributions. Created in 1987, Sematech has received \$100m a year for five years from the government, an amount matched by the private companies taking part.

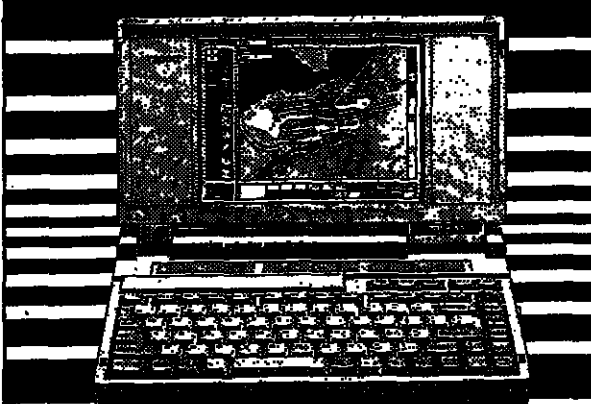
Sematech's overall objective is to demonstrate that state-of-the-art semiconductor products can be manufactured using only US equipment.

Buyers' break

JAPAN'S ministry of post and telecommunications plans to promote the use of high-definition television (HDTV) by giving tax breaks on purchases of equipment used for making pro-



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FRIDAY AUGUST 21 1992

Slack Pakistan concede record one-day total

Purpose-built England side proves its worth

By ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

TRENT BRIDGE (Pakistan won toss; England beat Pakistan by 198 runs)

THERE are few more stultifying spectacles than a one-sided one-day match, and very few have been more one-sided than this. England will not care one jot. They simply overwhelmed a disorientated Pakistan to take the Texaco Trophy with two games still to be played. Poor second best this may be, among the summer prizes, but it could hardly have been won more impressively.

The crowd at Trent Bridge betrayed signs of boredom long before tea-time, and quite what the sell-out attendances at Lord's, tomorrow, and Old

Trafford, on Monday, will make of it all if Pakistan play as abjectly as this again is open to question. Limited-overs cricket, by its very nature, depends for entertainment value on the contest being relatively even.

England, however, cannot be blamed for the shortcomings of the opposition, and Graham Gooch's side did all that could be asked, and more.

The winning margin of 198 runs was only four short of England's biggest in their 206 limited-overs internationals. Some records did, inevitably, fall. England beat by three runs the previous highest total in the 758 internationals played worldwide, and Graeme Hick's violent half-

century was the fastest, in terms of balls, in the nine seasons of the Texaco Trophy.

In short, this reconstituted England side may not have a long-term value, but its worth in achieving the short-term goal of the selectors was vindicated, albeit in a game which bore no relation whatsoever to the abrasive, knife-edge Test cricket of the past two months.

Without their captain, Javed Miandad, who was ruled out by his stomach complaint, Pakistan appeared to lack commitment and purpose. They also, unarguably, lacked a fifth bowler. The four who have caused England such headaches all summer were far from their formidable best but the other 11 overs divided among three inadequate left-armers cost 106 runs.

If there was any apprehension in the England ranks over being put in to bat on a humid, overcast morning, Gooch dispelled them instantly. In concert with Stewart, he gave his side a kick-start of five runs an over, emphasising the truth of the pitch and the speed of the outfield.

Even within the opening stand of 84, there were signs of the end-of-term slackness which characterised the entire Pakistan performance. Ijaz Ahmed, summoned from home specifically for these games, made a melancholy start by dropping Stewart, on four, in the gully with his first touch and giving away overthrows with his second.

The bowling was innocuous until Waqar came on to remove both openers, Gooch playing on as he drove, firm-footed, and Stewart top-edging a pull to long leg, where Akram judged it well and caught it at the second attempt.

This, though, was the one

phase in which Pakistan threatened parity. Smith was already into his most awesome rhythm, thumping away anything short, of which there was plenty, and even treating Mustaq's leg spin with contempt. Fairbrother, in his idiosyncratic way, was equally busy, and by lunch the pair had added 77 in 11 overs.

Pakistan's jaundiced view of English umpiring will not have been improved by Fairbrother's reprieve, by David Shepherd, in a run-out as conclusive as that of Gooch at Headingley. He might also have been caught from the shot which squatted over the square-leg boundary to give him 50, but by then England had bolted beyond recall.

Hick was at first a figure for sympathy. Fairbrother's runs had come chiefly against the lesser bowlers; Hick's entrance brought immediate recalls for Waqar and Wasim. This, though, was not the diffident Hick of Test match trials, it was the uninhibited and daring character who has terrorised county attacks for years. The transformation was remarkable, the strokes quite scintillating, his 50 coming from only 34 balls.

A brief flurry from Botham, and then it was Pakistan's turn. They came out, it seemed, determined to throw the bat at everything. It was a policy of all or nothing and they soon knew it was to be nothing.

Ramiz's tame prod to mid-on, first ball, opened the floodgates. It was soon 27 for three, all hope gone, and although Salim Malik made a spirited 45, even he departed to a shot which smacked of desperation if not resignation.

Photograph, page 26
Warwickshire sink, page 26

TRENT BRIDGE SCORES

Pakistan won toss	ENGLAND	6s	4s	3s	2s	1s	0s	Balls
*G A Gooch b Waqar	42	—	—	—	—	—	—	52
Driving, played wide Yorker onto leg stump								
1A J Stewart b Waqar	34	—	—	—	—	—	—	52
Jumping catch at deep long leg off hook								
R A Smith b Ramiz b Agha	77	2	6	87	72			
Pull to mid on								
N H Fairbrother b Agha	62	2	4	90	83			
Edged wide full toss onto stumps								
A J Lamb b Waqar	18	0	1	32	22			
Trying to turn ball to leg								
G A Hick b Waqar	63	3	2	7	62	42		
Bowled round legs								
I T Botham b Ramiz b Waqar	24	1	1	34	17			
Missed to deep long on								
C C Lewis not out	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
P A J DeFreitas not out	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Extras (lb 4, lb 12, nb 5)	39							
Total (7 wickets, 55 overs, 237 mins)	363							

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-4 (Stewart 32), 2-95 (Smith 53), 3-224 (Fairbrother 53), 4-250 (Lamb 10), 5-269 (Hick 12), 6-363 (Hick 59), 7-367 (Lewis 0).

BOWLING: Waqar 11-0-55-1 (no 2 w), 10-0-18-0, 2-0-11-0, 4-0-26-1; Agha 11-0-55-2 (no 2 w), 10-0-32-0, 1-0-4-0, 4-0-18-2; Wasim 11-0-75-4 (w), 10-0-54-2, 3-0-30-1, 2-0-19-1; Mustaq 11-0-56-0 (w), 10-0-47-0, 2-0-11-0; Ijaz 4-0-28-0 (no 1 w), 2-0-11-0; Salim 3-0-24-0 (w), 1-0-11-0, 2-0-23-0; Mujahid 4-0-43-0 (w), 1-0-31-0, 1-0-12-0.

INTERMEDIATE SCORES: 10 overs: 62; 20: 157; 30: 235; 40: 311.

PAKISTAN

PAKISTAN	6s	4s	3s	2s	1s	0s	Balls
Aamir Sohail b Botham b Lewis	17	—	—	—	—	—	20
Forcing shot caught by deep leg							
Ramiz Khan b Gooch b DeFreitas	0	—	—	—	—	—	21
Missed to mid on							
*Salim Malik b Smith b Waqar	45	—	—	—	—	—	57
Slid drive to short third man							
Aamir Sohail b Lewis b DeFreitas	1	—	—	—	—	—	5
Loose drive to backward point							
Ijaz Ahmed b Waqar run out (Hick)	10	—	—	—	—	—	33
35-yard direct hit from long leg							
Ijaz Ahmed b Gooch b Botham	28	—	—	—	—	—	38
Scoured to mid off							
Wasim Akram b Waqar b Waqar	1	—	—	—	—	—	4
Swinging hit on back leg							
Ijaz Ahmed b Stewart b Waqar	29	—	—	—	—	—	61
Charged down pitch, beaten by turn							
Waqar b Gooch b DeFreitas	13	—	—	—	—	—	33
Slid leg drive to point							
Mustaq Ahmed not out	14	—	—	—	—	—	36
Agha b Javed c Stewart b Small	2	—	—	—	—	—	17
Edged drive to keeper							
Extras (lb 5, w 5)	10						
Total (175 mins, 46.1 overs)	185						

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-2 (Sohail 1), 2-22 (Salim 4), 3-27 (Salim 7), 4-60 (Salim 30), 5-47 (Ijaz 1), 6-69 (Ijaz 20), 7-103 (Rashid 11), 8-129 (Rashid 11), 9-153 (Mustaq 9), 10-165 (Mustaq 14).

BOWLING: DeFreitas 11-0-53-3 (w), 10-0-19-2, 5-1-14-1; Lewis 8-0-24-1 (w), 1-0-22-1, 2-0-20-0; Botham 11-1-41-1 (one wicket); Small 5-1-0-0-1 (w), 2-0-21-0, 1-0-7-1; Waqar 11-1-34-3 (w), 2-0-11-0.

INTERMEDIATE SCORES: 10 overs: 32; 20: 80; 30: 116; 40: 146.

Umpires: B Duckett and D R Shepherd.

Man of the match: R A Smith. Adjuncts: R G D Williams.



Unchained gladiator: Hick on his way to a Texaco Trophy fastest fifty

Hick left in cold over tour contract

By ALAN LEE

GRAEME Hick was the most notable of several surprising omissions yesterday when England named nine players who have been given winter contracts, guaranteeing them up to £25,000 even if they are not subsequently chosen to tour.

Quite the most striking aspect of Hick's fall from favour is that I understand the contracts list was drawn up in June, long before he was left out of the England Test team. Malcolm Atherton and Devon Malcolm are also overlooked, and with Hick, Allan Lamb and Angus Fraser, they make up a total of five men to be dropped from last year's contracts list.

Six players receive senior contracts: Graham Gooch, Alec Stewart, Robin Smith, Jack Russell, Phil DeFreitas and Chris Lewis are those who will be paid the full touring fee, subject to the passing of a routine medical. The three with lesser contracts, 60 per cent of the full fee, are Phil Tufnell, Mark Ramprakash and Neil Fairbrother.

The contracts system aroused some resentment from the county clubs on its introduction last year, heightened when Atherton and Fraser were ruled out of touring by injuries and Malcolm was not selected.

Their justification was in preventing players from making unauthorised trips to South Africa and in giving security to players of stature and potential.

As the South Africa issue is no longer relevant, further opposition is assured, especially when a sum of £15,000 is to be paid to Ramprakash, whose stock is low after sundry international failures and a lamentable disciplinary record.

The England committee, in confirming the contracts, stated yesterday that they allowed them "to exercise a measure of control over the top players' activities". Whether this compensates for their plainly divisive nature is another matter.

Lamb is known to be unhappy that his name has disappeared from the contract list. Malcolm's omission is understandable, as the names were decided upon long before he bowled so well in the Oval Test Match, but Hick and Atherton could justifiably feel bewildered that they have dropped below Ramprakash and Fairbrother in official importance.

It would be a great surprise if either Hick or Atherton were not selected for the senior tour to India this winter, however, a comment which can be made, more guardedly, about another uncontracted batsman, David Gower.

Gooch indicated last night that fresh faces could be introduced to the England side for the remaining two Texaco Trophy games.

The England captain said of yesterday's win: "Pakistan have had a good tour but they had a bad day here. We can't feel too sorry for them. Our aim now is to win all five games and we have a couple of possible changes up our sleeves which we will be discussing later tonight."

A debut for Dominic Cork at Lord's, tomorrow, must be a strong possibility and England may even bring in someone from outside the chosen 13.

Double act earns an artificial distinction

RELIEVED of what Neville Cardus once called the "awful responsibility" of playing Test cricket, England's performance at Trent Bridge yesterday suggested that they were enjoying themselves again. It was a transformation which had more to do with attitude than personnel.

I cannot remember when the selection of an England party caused such gloom and disappointment, not least among the playing fraternity, as the one for these Texaco internationals. Even Dominic Cork, the one remotely imaginative choice, was included only because Derek Pringle, after being picked, asked to be excused, as though he, too, felt it was high time the old coterie was broken up.

That the Graham Gooch-Micky Stewart partnership, with its belief in the old

guard, should be finishing not knowing quite where they are with regard to the future is ironic, but not altogether surprising, although they had something of a triumph yesterday, they make things more difficult for themselves by seeing too many players as being good enough at one type of cricket but not at another.

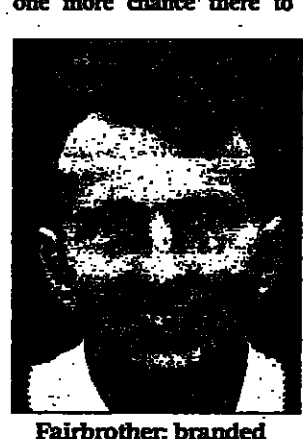
I can see no adequate reason why Allan Lamb, for example, should have been passed over for the last Test match at the Oval only to be brought back for the one-dayers: he has the game to succeed just as well at the one form of cricket as at the other. So does David Gower. The right way of bringing the best out of Phil Tufnell is to make him feel an integral part of the set-up. There are to be six one-day

internationals in India this winter, and Tufnell will bowl all the better in the three Test matches if he is not constantly in and out of the side. Generally speaking, the best cricketers are sufficiently adaptable to handle whatever comes their way.

I used to think that Neil Fairbrother could become England's next steady left hander, as small but as resolute and dependable as Leyland or Paynter or John Edrich. Now he is so branded as a one-day specialist that one wonders whether he will ever get the chance to prove it. Graeme Hick is another in danger of being brought out only for these often lively but essentially artificial occasions, when it is nice to win but so much less pride is at stake.

There was not a single

member of yesterday's Pakistan side that was as old even as the average age of the England XI. With respect to Lamb and Gower we simply must get some young batting blood to India, and I believe it will be the greatest pity if Hick, for one, is not given one more chance there to



Fairbrother: branded

translate his one-day form into something more meaningful. As a one-day double act he and Fairbrother are formidable. Against West Indies at Lord's last year they added 213 in 31 overs. There is much to come from them yet, more, I hope, than as a one-day turn.

In the last Test match at The Oval the England Test side made 207 and 174. Now, in reasonably similar conditions but more ready to take a calculated risk, they rattled along at six and a half runs an over. It was never better shown that bowlers bowl only as well as they are allowed to. If Pakistan relaxed a little after winning the Test matches, that was perfectly understandable. It is a different game, this one day cricket—and one to test the selectors' skill in knowing proper versatility when they see it.

FA club under scrutiny

THE Football Association confirmed yesterday that it was keeping an eye on Southampton after Micky Adams was sent off and three players were booked at Queen's Park Rangers on Wednesday night. Southampton also had two players booked in their opening Premier League game, against Tottenham Hotspur.

Two weeks ago the Hampshire club was fined £20,000 for their disciplinary record last season, when they had 80 players booked and five sent off, and £15,000 of that was suspended pending their performance this term.

An FA spokesman said: "We keep a watching brief over all clubs that have fines hanging over them."

Senna closes Ferrari door

By NORMAN HOWELL

AYRTON Senna yesterday increased the pressure in the intriguing three-handed contest for two driving places in the Williams-Renault team for 1993. Senna, the 1991 Formula One world champion, announced that he had refused Ferrari's offer of a drive next season, making himself more available than ever for a seat at Williams.

Senna's decision may be a formality as Ferrari had come to the conclusion that having him next year, a transitional time for the Italians, would probably be disruptive. But the announcement has put Frank Williams in a difficult position as he negotiates which combination of Nigel Mansell, Alain Prost and Senna he should have in his team next season.

It would seem inconceivable

to oust Mansell, who took the 1992 world championship in Hungary last Sunday, even if he is alleged to be asking for about £12 million for next year. But Williams has made no secret, over the past three years, that signing Senna has always been his goal. Furthermore, according to many French sources, Prost has done a deal with Williams and his wages will be paid by Elf and Renault. So the Frenchman cannot be budged.

For the first time, Williams has Senna saying that he wants to join his team. Indeed, the Brazilian says if he does not sign for Williams he will take a year off.

At McLaren, there is still no indication that Honda will provide the engines next year. Senna is frustrated by his team's inability to match Wil-

liams's engineering prowess. "After having won a lot, it is difficult to accept not being able to succeed on a regular basis," he said.

Mansell and Williams spoke on Tuesday, but it seems there are still some areas to clarify and that an announcement will not be made before next week.

Mansell, too, has said that he drives for Williams or he retires. So there could be a situation in which two world champions retire and a retired world champion returns to grand prix racing. But the most likely outcome of this messy business is Mansell and Prost driving for Williams.

And Senna? He may have to kick his heels on some Brazilian beach for a while, maybe until Ferrari want him to help develop the car for 1994.

Bruno wants Coetzer bout to be eliminator

FRANK Bruno will complete his three-bout comeback under Mickey Duff's promotion by meeting Pierre Coetzer of South Africa, at Wembley on October 17. Duff has applied to the IBF and WBA to have the fight recognised as a world heavyweight title eliminator.

With Lennox Lewis, Riddick Bowe and Donovan "Razor" Ruddock jockeying for a title challenge against Evander Holyfield, Coetzer is one of the most difficult propositions among the remaining contenders. "Of course it's a risk fighting Coetzer," Duff said yesterday. "It's undoubtedly the hardest fight Frank has had since his comeback."

"Bruno is already in the top ten of the IBF, so I don't expect any trouble in them

recognising it as an eliminator—and a win will hopefully get him into the top ten of the three main organisations."

Bruno's victorious return against John Emmen, the Dutchman, lasted one round last November, but he proved his punching power by knocking out José Ribalta in four minutes in April.

Coetzer, 31, worked his way to the leading contender's spot with 17 successive wins to qualify for a final eliminator against Bowe in Las Vegas last month. But Bowe won in the seventh round to claim a November 13 fight with Holyfield, the champion.

If the Bruno fight is granted eliminator status, Coetzer will view it as a quick chance of moving back into title contention.

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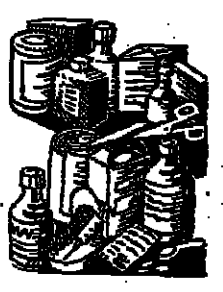
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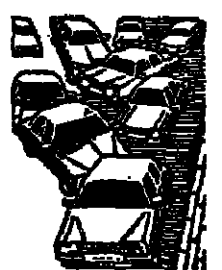
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At 60, Lady Antonia Fraser, the popular historian with the Gioconda smile, can satisfy the most brazenly curious about Henry VIII's wives

Lady Antonia Fraser, mother of six, celebrates her sixtieth birthday next Thursday by publishing *The Six Wives of Henry VIII*, of which 60,000 copies have been printed by Weidenfeld. "The number six," she says, "seems to dominate my life at the moment."

Like its author the book is opulent, full of romantic fascination, and well-mannered. By well-mannered I mean it tells you all the enthralling details you wish to know about the royal marriages. The bedroom arrangements, the hazardous business of sexual intercourse in those small upprivate rooms at Hampton Court Palace, the facts of contraception.

"I have everyone's curiosity, I think the things I want to know about are what everyone wants to know. I have an ordinary eye. Harold (her husband, Harold Pinter) is completely different: he has an original curiosity, an extraordinary eye."

I asked a well-known historian, who shall be nameless: "Now, royal sex. About the royal marriage bed. Did he go to her, or did she go to him?" And the well-known historian said, "I've no idea. What an extraordinary question." But you see, it is frightfully interesting. If she had gone to him, there would have been a risk of finding someone else in his bed."

When Henry married Catherine Howard, she notes, her marriage vows included the promise "to be bonair and buxom in bed." "I think buxom actually means good-natured," Lady Antonia says, "but really, how can anyone vow not to be flat-chested and cross?"

I do wish this book had been around when we did the Tudors for A-level history. Our textbooks for S.T. Bindoff and G.R. Elton (uncle of Ben) never divulged such fascinating information. For instance, when young Prince Arthur, Henry's elder brother, was betrothed to Catherine of Aragon, an envoy from Spain performed the ceremony of "inserting a symbolic leg" into the royal marriage bed. When the couple were actually married two years later — she aged 16, he 15 — "the symbolic leg was replaced with the real thing." Whether there was any sexual congress between the two, however, was to be the great question 20 years later when Henry VIII was suddenly stricken by scruples about having married his brother's wife, in order to negotiate *The Divorce*.

Queen of ancient hearts

"And do you agree with me," she asks, "that what many historians — all male — have assumed, that there was a given moment when the king suddenly made love to her, and that up to that moment they had sat on either side of the royal sofa, is so absurd, don't you think? Life's just not like that." She is speaking of foreplay. Henry and Anne Boleyn indulged in years of chronic foreplay, she concludes, until their wedding night. At which point she is brazen enough to ask, "did the earth move for them?" (Knowing very well we cannot know the answer.) "Harold and I spent a lot of time discussing whether I could ask that," she said. "Harold said yes. And I finally decided to allow myself that indulgence. This is 1992. I think it's OK, don't you?"

She thinks she herself would not have lasted long as a wife of Henry VIII. "I don't know what my crime would have been," she said. "But I suppose I would have produced a lot of children." ("To come of a copiously childbearing family," notes this eldest of eight, "was always a point in a woman's favour.") But perhaps the sub-terfuge was Henry's fault. "That is unknowable," she said, "though fascinating. He actually conceived a lot of children as a young man. Catherine conceived often. Later, when he became obese, his impotence is very interesting. That's why it is so awful the way everything was always the woman's fault. So, unlike Lord Tringham in *The Go-Between*, 'Nothing is ever a lady's fault.' The Edwardians were quite different."

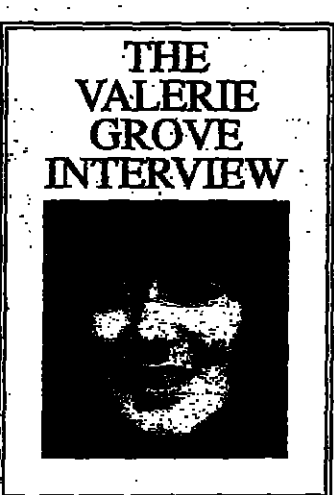
She allows that Henry began well, cutting a dashing figure, six-foot-two, waist 35in, chest 42, with long muscular legs and enormous physical energy for dancing and hunting and jousting. "So agreeable to contemplate," she writes, "in a charming young man." No wonder Catherine fell in love with him, and Anne too, when he was 35. "He was extremely attractive," Lady Antonia says, "quite apart from the famous aphrodisiac of power." But he aged badly into the familiar monster figure with piggish eyes, tiny mouth and grotesque girth. "He really was corrupted by absolute power. Then there was the ferocity of his temper and the bad

leg, which would make anyone bad-tempered."

But we have heard quite enough about Henry: her concern is to redress the balance. Observe the passion with which the dignified Catherine of Aragon publicly flung herself at the king's feet and pleaded for justice (as in Shakespeare's *Henry VIII*), and what spirit Anne Boleyn and Jane Seymour showed. To convey her admiration, Lady Antonia settled for the word *feisty*. "It's the first time I've used it," she said. "I'm rather traditional in my language. I did think about it carefully, but I couldn't find another word, so I am now happy with it, and would defend it. Katharine Hepburn always gets called feisty."

I sense a particular sympathy with Henry, however, at the point when the king's liaison with Jane Seymour, while he is still married to Anne, is discovered. It is a situation she remembers well, from the time her own affair with Harold Pinter became public in 1975. They had met when her brother-in-law Kevin Billington was directing a Pinter play, *The Birthday Party*. "And the earth moved," she laughed. Next year, she says, her union with Mr Pinter will have outlived her first marriage (19 years) to the late Sir Hugh Fraser, the Tory MP. "Oddly enough, Harold and I both got married for the first time on almost exactly the same day — and of course, as we are left with nothing much closer than a visual impression of soft, pastel-shaded contours and that Gioconda smile which persists, I am told, even in the swimming pool. Interviewers do often capture, however, her crisp, well-phrased responses ('A look of complacency is so very bad for the complexion') which sometimes have a flavour of Wildean wit. She told *The Guardian* she wished every woman could be called Lady. "It establishes femininity without divulging the marital state. It is pretty. And it is so friendly to be called by one's Christian name: it could even become classless, if everyone used it."

Whenever asked how she managed to write books as a mother of six, she would reply, "I am not Superwoman. I am, cunning



Woman. I never cook, and I never shop." At 50 she was asked how she felt about greying hair: "I would not permit a grey hair," she replied.

It was at Oxford that she decided, with the same steely determination, that one did not have to be a plump brunette (she had long brown curly hair: "One could be blonde, and a good deal less plump." She wore a lipstick called *Pink Plum Beautiful*, by Revlon: "Like you," a devoted young man told her. She seems to have worn it ever since.

When she turned 50 she decided she would learn a new poem every day, and did so. Now she is learning Spanish from *Reader's Digest* tapes, in order to dazzle her son Damian's parents-in-law when he marries his Mexican bride, Paloma, in November. This dedication to memory-improvement has made her a mainstay of quiz and panel games on television and radio.

The Pinters have just lately returned from Corfu, where Mr Pinter spent some time learning his own lines: later this autumn he will take part in a revival of his play *Old Friends*. Paul Eddington will play the John Gielgud role of Spooner, while Pinter plays the Ralph Richardson role of Hirst. "Harold said, nobody will want to tangle with the shades of these great actors, so I'm going to do it myself. Nobody will say I'm not as good as Ralph Richardson, because that will be too obvious."

Will the Pinters' June 20th Group 1a literary, socialist gathering which challenged Thatcherite ideas ever reconvene? "I don't honestly know the answer to this question. It was really run by John and Penny Mortimer [the barrister-playwright and his wife]. Penny has written to ask whether we should go on with it. I can't speak for the others, but it really came into being to discuss the alternatives to Conservatism: it belongs to the attempt to dislodge the Conservative government, which failed. But as a historian I think it would be interesting, in view of all the rubbish that was written, to have a record of who actually came during the three years. We know what was said, from the minutes taken by Penny and Thelma [Pinter Nicholas's wife]. It's a footnote, I think."

If she has a political commitment it is to more women's voices being heard among the baying of men in the Commons: she voted for Margaret Thatcher (one of the heroines of her book on warrior queens) in 1979 on feminist grounds, and is now cheered by the number of young women in the Labour cabinet.

Hers is popular history, academic historians may sniff, but what could be more enjoyable? She conveys the lavish, raucous flavour of the Tudor age. "And although it was extremely hierarchical, it was more like modern America: it's the gamble which is so exciting about Tudor life. You could rise, like Cromwell, but you could also go down again, it was snakes and ladders: and at the end of the snake was Traitors' Gate." Unsurprisingly she relates the brutality of punishment: the lucky ones being hanged, the unlucky sewn into a cowhide and flung to the dogs.

As for the seethings of political inter-marriage arrangements between European dynasties, we cannot conceive of such shenanigans today. "It's as if Lord Carrington or Douglas Hurd's daughter had to be married off to Milosovic's son, on top of having to try to make peace..."

To get a real sense of what Tudor lives were like, she recommends visiting the castles of Hever and Sudeley. She and Harold would take a picnic: she is all for combining pleasure with research.

"And I got a lot of eerie feelings, too, going to the Tower of London, to the place where the execution block was and is, and just a few yards away, St Peter ad Vincula, a tiny, exquisite chapel where Anne Boleyn and her cousin Catherine Howard were buried, where their decapitated bodies were carried in secret by ladies-in-waiting: that gave me the shivers."

Some years ago she wrote *The Weaker Vessel*, a fine work on women's lives in the 17th century, which gave a long overdue emphasis to the subjects of midwifery and childbirth, on which she is something of an expert. Her own four

first babies were easy, delivered at home; the fifth was a forceps delivery "and ghastly, as it always is", and with the sixth, "I would definitely have been dead in another age."

"One can only feel sympathy," she writes, "for the desperate woman whose only crime was not producing a son." She herself would have been perfectly happy with six daughters, although once she had one son (number three) she did want another. Now she has three granddaughters — a fourth grandchild is due in October — and "I love my grandgirls. I'm rather matriarchal really. We are a matriarchal family, because of my father not being at all patriarchal and my mother being much the stronger character. A matriarch is a wonderful thing to be when you're 60."

She is looking forward to getting her bus pass, so there is no need for her to be "cruised" in *The Oldie*. At a recent Oxford reunion with friends — "Margaret and Vanessa and my cousin Henrietta" — she discovered that at 60 you get a letter in the post telling you about all the advantages. "I think nature is kind," she says. "One gets more and more shortsighted, so when you take off your spectacles to put on makeup the image in the mirror is pleasingly blurred."

She plays tennis thrice weekly at the Vanderbilt Club, proud of her forehand drive and moving across the court in a stately gavotte, as befits "a promising young grandmother". Her birthday present from her husband is to be a two-day tennis tournament with all her children and their spouses at Chevening Glen, the country house hotel in Hampshire. She is buying a small but costly trophy.

When her friend Bob Gottlieb, erstwhile editor of the *New Yorker*, suggested the Six Wives idea to her, she says, "I knew this was the book I was born to write. And indeed so it has proved. I have had a passion for history literally since I could read. I really adore it. I read it for pleasure and it never comes to an end, so to be able to earn one's living communicating it, why should I want to stop? You get to a state where you know more than anyone else about a subject, and I feel I can turn other people on."

Her next book will be about the Gunpowder Plot.

"But there's no love interest in the Gunpowder Plot," said I.

"I'll find it," she said, peachily glowing. "Trust me."

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EDINBURGH FESTIVAL

MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP: The second programme of the work of this renowned American choreographer and company. Following *Edo and Aeneas*, they now present a varied programme of dances. These include *A Lake*, set to *Hydys's* Concerto No 2 in D, *Ten Supper*, a light-hearted series of solo dances using Alexander Tcherepnin's *Bagatelles*, and *Gloria*, set to *Vivaldi's* *Gloria* and *D. Playhouse Theatre*, tomorrow, Sun, 7.30pm, mat, Sun, 2.30pm. Until Aug 24.

ST PETERSBURG PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA: The former Leningrad Philharmonic returns to the festival with a series of concerts over the weekend. Beginning tonight with a varied programme of works by Weber, Tchaikovsky and Shostakovich, it continues tomorrow night with Beethoven's *Piano Concerto No 2* in C minor and Tchaikovsky's *Symphony No 4* in E minor. The Tchaikovsky theme is continued on Sunday evening with a programme comprising the *Marche Slave*, the *Swan Lake Suite* and the *Madame Butterfly* overture. The orchestra is conducted by Valery Gergiev. Tickets: *Edinburgh Festival*, tomorrow, Sun, 7.30pm, mat, Sun, 2.30pm. Until Aug 24.

FROM ROME TO HOME: Continuing the series of concerts led by a Scottish music through the centuries, a 16th-century piece performed by the *Edinburgh Festival* orchestra, including a sensual song and an oblique cantata composed for King William by John Abell whose outstanding vocal range has been the king of Poland's bears. A selection of other cantatas by Clerk, plus Scottish lute and harpsichord solos from the *Balcanica* and other manuscripts complete the programme. Queen's Hall, Sun, 3pm. Tickets: *Edinburgh Festival*, tomorrow, Sun, 7.30pm, mat, Sun, 2.30pm. Until Aug 24.

ENI TRAMA, WAS SWIST: German actress Edith Clever and the Icelandic filmmaker Hans Jorgen Syberberg have collaborated to produce their latest work, a drama looking lyrically at the forces of change in second world war Europe. The *Countries* Van Borselen, shortly after the Russian "liberation", in her deserted home, overcome by

WEEKEND EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Sara Yelland

memories of her former, inescapable life. *Edinburgh Festival*, tomorrow, Sun, 7.30pm, mat, Sun, 2.30pm. Until Aug 24.

EDINBURGH FRINGE

UBU: Links, cabbage, carrots and cucumbers, along with a grand miscellany of other fruit and vegetables, are used to extraordinary effect by French theatre company NADA, in a particularly physical piece of theatre. Set in Poland, and written by Jarry, this unusual new version becomes a study of the absurdities of dictatorship where ordinary garden produce poses as anything from the King of Poland to the soldier's sword. *Theatre Workshop*, 34 Hamilton Place, tonight, tomorrow, 7.45pm. Until Sept 5. (Not Sunday)

HELLO PARIS: Two soldiers sit on a hill looking down on a town full of dead bodies mistakenly killed by their own side. Ordered to destroy the evidence they enter a dark world posed between fantasy and reality, and with the appearance of the troop's 1st trooper everything is transported to an even more dangerous level. *Edinburgh Festival*, tomorrow, Sun, 7.30pm, mat, Sun, 2.30pm. Until Aug 24.

DOUBLE CONCERTO: A tense interpretation of the dangerous and complex relationship between captor and captive. An internationally famous female violinist is taken in for questioning in an unexplored totalitarian state. *Festival Club*, 9-15 Chambers Street, tomorrow, Sun, 6.10pm. Then Mon 24, Fri 28, Sat 29.

REVELATION: The mysterious and powerful final book of the Bible brought

to life with movement, sound and a conventionally driving power of imagery. Price-winning artist Stephen Shank performs the solo role of St John, climbing out of the rubble of the aftermath to tell of horror, desperation and hope. *Tramway Hall*, Saint Ann's Place, tonight, tomorrow, Sun, 8.15pm. Until Aug 29.

Edinburgh Fringe Festival (Box office 031-225-5138)

ELSEWHERE

BBC PROMS 52: Heinrich Schütz conducts the Northern Sinfonia in a lively concert bringing together Mozart's "Haffner" Symphony and Beethoven's First Concerto, played by the preeminent pianist Christian Zacharias. Completing the programme are Handel's *Concerto* a due can No 2 in F major and Alfred Schnittke's *Concerto Grosso No 1*. *Royal Albert Hall*, Kensington Gore, London SW7 017-620 0540, tonight, 8pm.

BLOW THAT BRASS: Launch of Colin Street's International Street Music Festival featuring some very different brass bands including *Shyams* from India, *Afros* from Africa and steel band *Lebanese Saffire* from the Caribbean. Also includes storytelling for children and food and crafts stalls. *Gabriel's Wharf*, Upper Ground, London SE1 017-620 0540, today, midday-2pm.

BRITISH YOUTH OPERA: Their outdoor concert includes Dvořák's *Serenade* for Wind, extracts from *Beet's* *Carmen*, and *El Amor* from Manuel de Falla. Conductor, Timothy Dean. *Broadside Centre*, Liverpool Street, today, 12.45pm.

THE PASADENA ROOF ORCHESTRA: Sporting penguin suits, leotards and red carnations, the P.R.O. evokes memories of the days of the Sassy Bands. Henry Hall, Jack Hyfion, Jack Payne and Roy Fox, with a wide ranging selection of jazz, popular songs and dance music from the Twenties and Thirties, each have placed recently in its historical setting. *Open Air Theatre*, Regent's Park, 017-436-2431, tonight, 8pm.

artist in John Guare's fine play on

human interdependence. *Comedy*, Farnham Street, SW1 017-867 1045. Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat, Wed, 3pm and Sat, 4pm. 100 seats.

STRAIGHT AND NARROW: Nicholas Lynhurst, Neil Dargill and Carmel McSharry in *Blasphemy* comedy about a young mother's mother. *Edinburgh Festival*, tomorrow, Sun, 7.30pm, mat, Sun, 2.30pm. Until Aug 24.

A WOMAN OF NO IMPORTANCE: Philip Prowse's triumphal *ISC* production. John Carls as a callous aristocrat in *Wilde's* social and moral comedy. *Theatre Royal*, Haymarket, SW1 017-930 8800. Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat, Wed, 3pm, 2.30pm. 165 seats.

LONG RUNNERS: *Clash* Brothers. *Phoenix* 017-867 1045. *Clash* Brothers. *Phoenix* 017-867 1045. *Clash* Brothers. *Phoenix* 017-867 1045.

PHILADELPHIA, HERE I COME! Brian Friel's affectionate comedy of an Irish emigrant and his coming home. *Edinburgh Festival*, tomorrow, Sun, 7.30pm, mat, Sun, 2.30pm. Until Aug 24.

PIGMALEON: Alan Howard, Frances Barber in a Howard Barker production that some admire greatly while others feel subordinates the text to a clever design. *Edinburgh Festival*, tomorrow, Sun, 7.30pm, mat, Sun, 2.30pm. Until Aug 24.

THE RISE AND FALL OF LITTLE VOICE: Terrence performance by Alison Steadman as the raucous slattern in Jim Cartwright's play about dreams, *Edinburgh Festival*, tomorrow, Sun, 7.30pm, mat, Sun, 2.30pm. Until Aug 24.

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THEATRE: EDINBURGH

Draw no conclusion from a cartoon

EDINBURGH FESTIVAL

The Ballachulish Beat Corn Exchange

THERE once was a candidate for vice-president of the United States who offered a robust riposte when he was attacked for being second-rate. Since there was so much mediocrity about him, it was only fair that it should be represented at the top level of government. Some such thinking must be behind the decision to add the hitherto unperformed *Ballachulish Beat* to the microfestival of C.P. Taylor's plays at Edinburgh this year. Perhaps it would misrepresent the dramatist and discourage other writers if we did not see his more immature and ineffective work, too. If Taylor could pen this in 1967, and 15 years later come up with the superb *Good*, there is hope for every apprentice scribbler.

The director, Allan Sharpe, argues in the programme that the play manages simultaneously to be very Stiles and "years ahead of its time". Well, maybe. There is nothing new in the idea of a record company exploiting the anger of a working-class rock group, or in that of so-called socialists sacrificing their convictions to Mammon. But there is a bizarre originality in the suggestion that this could lead to larger, more ferocious versions of the riots that have disfigured our cities in recent years. By the time this apocalyptic vision appears, though, the play has lapsed into jaunty cheerfulness.

The production veers even further towards cartoon than the script. Robert Carr's Ron Green, who turned down the Beatles and is looking for an alternative, wears a pink suit plastered



Beating it (left to right) Gordon Dougal, Suzanne Bonner, George Drennan, Julia Dow and Gary Grochla

with dollar and pound signs. His associate at Teensville Records, Justin Greer-Spencer's somewhat unfortunately named Jimmie Hill, opts for a wig like a cheap bathroom sponge and a yellow jacket covered with reproductions of pop discs. There is a secretary (Julia Dow) with an orange beehive and Dame Edna specs, and a robot (Suzanne Bonner) who dresses in silver and lives in a wheelchair. And many props, down to the cigars the money-men smoke, are flat-out-outs.

There is a place for caricature and comic agitprop. *The Ballachulish Beat* is in the tradition of the old Unity shows, and, as Sharpe says in the programme, has something in common

with the political music theatre that companies such as 7:84 have more recently propagated. But Taylor's inventiveness, so impressive in the later plays, is not yet strong enough to compensate for a story both facile and confusing.

For the record, this is how it goes: Carr's blubbery Green has no sooner discovered The Keelies, defiantly blasting away in the Scots rain, than Andrew Barr, playing their communist agent, is released from prison. But the promised conflict does not occur. Green finds that songs about class warfare ("it makes me puke, this world") are perfectly saleable, and Andy Stalin, as the agent is called, is soon treating himself to Jags while

denying the boys motor-bikes. With both men's consent, revolutionary socialism dwindles into anodyne ditties praising human brotherhood.

At least that is comprehensible. The revolt of the songsters — George Drennan, Gary Grochla, Gordon Dougal — is less so, and the escalation of a fun raffle for rock fans into civil war is quite inscrutable. The chaos that ends the evening is an artistic one, too. Still, next week brings back Taylor with his *Black and White Minstrels*, a far more sophisticated piece. If you want to see phoney socialists wrily dismembered, that may be the play for you.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

THEATRE: LONDON

Bar-room bore gets comeuppance

Acapulco King's Head

STEVEN BERKOFF's new 80-minute play is set in a bar at one of the swanky hotels that line the Pacific shore at Acapulco like a row of teeth. Four men and a girl sit hunched with their backs towards us, and the Mexican barman (Paul Bantall) is poised with arms back, about a chalk sketch of Sylvester Stallone as Rambo.

For a micro-second the characters are frozen in these attitudes; then they whirl into frenzied movement as abruptly as if someone had switched the current on, swaying, rocking, upending, beer-slurping at Margartias, interrupting their cacophony of boasting with calls for oives, nuts or vino.

The current is switched off, the men freeze again, but the girl (Connie Hyde) slowly turns on her stool to face us, and in the little scene that follows, reveals herself to be a brainless bit from New Jersey, on heat for a man. Her neighbour is Berkoff, playing a character named Steve, and as the play develops suspicion grows that he could well be distilling some piercing emotion experienced in such a hellish place. For he and the other men are involved in the making of yet another Stallone film. We presume that Berkoff has a significant role — he greets the girl in a thick Russian accent. Bald, Slavic heavy-lidded Voyo (Joe Montana) is to be outwitted in single combat by the all-American hero.

The other two men are to play caged prisoners of war, rescued by Rambo's invincible might, but the film gives them no lines to speak. They are background. They could be played by anybody. One is a Scottish drifter (Hilton Mear), the other has found his way from Brooklyn (Terence Beesley). Both are ludicrously self-important, and what Berkoff has done here has not, so far as I know, been attempted before. He gives vent to a star's anger at the pretensions of extras.

For a few grimly enjoyable moments his character can no longer let pass the Scotsman's blinkered perceptions of himself. Menton poverty, of any topic at all. Hitherto he has let the man's class assumptions go unanswered. But now, scarcely raising his voice — indeed lowering it so as not to alert the other man, the better to slide words like knives into unprotected flesh — he cuts the man down to his true, puny size in one elegant attack. It is a reminder of how seldom underdogs are whipped in our culture, and virtually never is the whip wielded by the top dog.

Around this scene Berkoff has constructed an absorbing portrait of men with cash in their wallets, urgency in the groin and rubbish in their heads. Berkoff, who also directs, makes himself the alert exception, but his occasional expressions of comical confusion, where courtesy triumphs over candour, disarm any audience discontent this self-portrait might generate.

JEREMY KINGSTON

ROCK: NORWICH

Blooming peculiar bunch

Hewison, the studiously impassive guitarist and singer, adds to a mixture of stuttering chords and fuzzy solos. Spearpoint's lyrics are a sparse collection of slogans, observations and rhetorical questions. Instead of the formal demands of verse and chorus, the NewFADS substitute a bubbling flow, a testimony to their collectivist spirit.

Tracks from their forthcoming third

album dominate the dozen-song set. The unfamiliarity is offset by their echoes of Joy Division, the Gang of Four, the Jam, Isaac Hayes and the Beatles. The eclectic references may never earn them Manchester band wide fame, but it may ensure them the continued loyalty of their modest following.

Their performance certainly gave no hint of diminished enthusiasm from

either side. The new single, "It's Not What You Know", escaped sloganeering through Spearpoint's artful, street-wise disenchantment: "I could get a good job if I wanted one", "American Money" matched bitter lyrics to a rousing anthem.

The most surprising and affecting performance was another new song, "Bruises". Its melancholic, descending bassline was accompanied by a vocal which seemed to carry the melody; it survived, bolstered by the reassuring chatter of the rhythm section: an appropriately clever trick from these admirable practitioners of deceit.

JOHN STREET

ENTERTAINMENTS

CINEMAS

ADOLPHUS 017-434 5070. *Adolphus* 017-434 5070. *Adolphus* 017-434 5070. *Adolphus* 017-434 5070.

CURSON MAYFAIR Curson St. 017-434 5070. *Curson Mayfair* 017-434 5070. *Curson Mayfair* 017-434 5070. *Curson Mayfair* 017-434 5070.

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London Galleries: Richard Cork on the savage invective of the work of photo-montage artist John Heartfield

Fighting fascism with scissors

Clamping claw-like fingers on his victim's bald head, John Heartfield slices through the neck of Police-Chief Zörgiebel with an obscene pair of scissors. The decapitated man seems oblivious of the atrocity, and continues to smile with complacent eyes. But Heartfield gazes out, brazenly inviting the world to witness the macabre brutality of his deed.

By the time he produced this fiendish self-portrait in 1929, Heartfield was approaching his peak as the pictorial assassin celebrated by the Bauhaus Art Gallery's retrospective. The Nazis who would prove his most mercurial target, were rapidly consolidating power in his native Germany. And Heartfield, as his coldly frowning face implies, was quite prepared to butcher their strutting figures in an attempt to expose the infamy of fascism. Photomontage, the word coined to describe the slicing and gluing together of mass-media images, derives from an engineering term. Heartfield would have relished such a connection: he was fiercely anti-art in his outlook. Better by far to be seen as a fitter or assembler rather than one of the posuring painters he despised.

A similar wish to dissociate himself from convention lay behind Heartfield's decision to anglicise his name. The year was 1916, and he had recently obtained release from military service after feigning a nervous breakdown. Sickened by the nationalistic slogan "May God Punish England!", he adopted a new identity. His real name, Helmut Herzfeld, was rejected for ever. Like George Grosz, whose savagely polemical work he had come to admire, the defiant Heartfield aligned himself with his country's enemy.

At this stage, though, Heartfield's own work lacked the power he would develop in the 1930s. He may have destroyed all the paintings produced during his student years, but this wholesale renunciation was not yet replaced by an arresting alternative. In collaboration with his brother, he turned the magazine *Neue Jugend* into a brave, outspoken forum for pacifism. But its typographical experiments were overshadowed by the prowess of Grosz, whose vehement prints were promoted in a special issue of the magazine.

The opening room of the well-researched Barbian survey is, significantly, devoted to a group venture rather than Heartfield alone. A recreation of the close-packed, irreverent images made for the Berlin Dada Fair in 1920, this

clamorous space testifies to Heartfield's enthusiastic involvement with the angriest avant-garde initiative of the time.

Passionately opposed to everything that had pitched Germany into the calamity of war, the Berlin Dadaists hurled their splanetic satire at a Hogarthian array of social maladies. And Heartfield was content to subsume his own identity, working with other members of the group on demonstrations supporting the Russian Revolution as well as suspending, from the gallery ceiling, an airborne apparition called *The Prussian Anarchist*. Dressed in an officer's uniform and spouting a papier-mâché pig's head, this grotesque apparition summed up his contempt for the Teutonic war-impulse.

Far from wanting Heartfield's abhorrence of militarism intensified over the next decade, friendships with Dix and Brecht strengthened his determination to resist the resurgence of Germany's fighting spirit. The first contemporary photomontage he ever exhibited was an uncompromising denunciation of the martial spirit. On the tenth anniversary of the war's outbreak, Heartfield displayed a gruesome image in a Berlin bookshop window. Dominated by a row of skeletons, posed as if for an army medical inspection, a procession of helmeted boys soldiers march towards the foreground. They are the sons whose fathers were slaughtered, and the corpulent Hindenburg appears as a grandfatherly figure leading them to extinction.

As yet, Heartfield's work had not acquired the demonic edge which drove him, during the 1930s, to wield his scissors with flagellatory zeal. But Hitler's rise brought out the most inventive side of his imagination. "How to use Photography as a Weapon" was the slogan above the entrance to a room of his work at a major Stuttgart exhibition in 1929, and the following year he began reaching a mass audience with regular photomontages in the communist workers' magazine *AIZ*.

This potent new forum gave Heartfield the extra impetus he needed. Until then, he had been best known as a book designer. But most of his dustjackets compare poorly with the *AIZ* pictures. Sobriety is cast aside now, and the full extent of Heartfield's hatred becomes clear. Goering is transformed into a bellowing and blood-smeared butcher, brandishing an axe as *The Executioner of the Third Reich*. Hitler is nicknamed *Adolf, the Superman*, but an x-ray of his torso discloses that a column of

gold coins extends from throat to stomach. Money becomes a constant theme during this period.

The headlines for *AIZ* were demanding, but Heartfield thrived on the often complex task of co-ordinating the work of photographers, retouchers and printers. Maybe the urgency acted as a vital form of adrenalin, for the original camera-ready designs show no signs of haste. On the contrary, their finesse is often astonishing. Enormous care went into the production of *As in the Middle Ages... so in the Third Reich*, where a medieval carving of a man pinioned on a wheel is juxtaposed with a figure helplessly stretched out on a tiled swastika.

Not that all his felicities survived the passage from artwork to front page. *The Meaning of Geneva* is in the original, a superbly crafted



Demonic edge: As in the Middle Ages... so in the Third Reich, May 31, 1934 (left); *The Meaning of Geneva*, 1932 (detail)

achievement. Designed to protest at the shooting of workers in a Geneva demonstration, it spurns the documentary approach in favour of tragic symbolism. A dove is skewered on a bayonet, and every feather mune in its plumage is conveyed even in the detached white tufts floating through the sky.

Much detail is lost in the magazine reproduction, where cropping ensures that the bayonet no longer emerges from the lake. But it still makes a compelling cover, with a pathos that Heartfield rarely explored elsewhere.

He was far too preoccupied with anathematising the fascist threat. His contempt for Hitler and his cronies knew no bounds, and in *The Three Magi from Sorrowland*

Hitler, Goering and Goebbels prance absurdly on a circus tight-rope. When Hitler seized power in 1933, *AIZ* and the by now notorious Heartfield fled to Prague. But exile and the threat of fascist revenge failed to deter him. Until the magazine's collapse following Hitler's invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1938, the courage and pungency of Heartfield's onslaught on the Nazis remained exemplary.

He would never again find such a nourishing focus. After escaping Prague and settling in London, Heartfield tried to continue his crusade. But the image of *Kaiser Adolf* he produced for *Picture Post*'s cover in September 1939 seems soft compared with his earlier bile. Without the patrons and collaborators he had relied on before, Heartfield's work during the London years never regained its



energy. The absence of his brother Wieland, who was barred from entering England and spent the war years in New York, also affected his output. He had thrived on a tough, perilous stance of opposition, and without that central charge his work deteriorated.

The Barbian exhibits register the drop in temperature clearly enough, for Heartfield's final period in East Germany was more disappointing still. Living now in a state whose ideology he favoured, the former agitator became institutionalised. His moment had passed, and the concluding part of the survey proves how much was lost during the long, sad years of official acceptance and decline.

John Heartfield at the Barbian Art Gallery (071-638 4141) until Oct 18. 10am-6.45pm except Tues (10am-5.45) and Sun (noon-6.45). £4.50

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GALLERY CHOICE

● **GRAHAM ARNOLD.** Hardly a moment ago, it seems, the Brotherhood of Ruralists was a controversial group of young fogies turning away from abstraction and the urban stridency of Pop Art to create consoling images of an idyllic countryside and soft-core sex in pastel shades. Now one of the founders, Graham Arnold, has just turned 60, and is celebrated with a major retrospective at the small but ambitious Machynlleth Festival. The earliest work dates from 1950, the latest was painted this year. Unashamed of painting prettily and charmingly, he has produced an impressive body of work. The Tabernacle Cultural Centre, Heol Penrallt, Machynlleth, Powys (0654 703355) Daily 10am-5pm, until August 30.

● **PAINTING IN BRITANNY: GAUGUIN AND FRIENDS.** Gauguin is famous, his associates during his Breton years (1886-94) much less so. But several of them are of considerable interest in their own right, and painters like Emile Bernard, Paul Serusier, Charles Filiger and Georges Lacombe have all recently been given major shows of their own. They are all represented here, with some of the international contingent at Pont-Aven, including the Dane Mogens Batin, the Irish Roderic O'Connor and the English Robert Bevan and Eric Forbes-Robertson. No denying the special potency of Gauguin's personal vision, but the lesser luminaries still have their own radiance. Laing Art Gallery, Higham Place, Newcastle-upon-Tyne (091 232 6989) Tues-Fri 10am-5.30pm, Sat 10am-4.30pm, Sun 2.30-5.30pm, until October 11.

● **EDINBURGH CONTEMPORARY ART FAIR.** Until this year Edinburgh has not had its own contemporary art fair. But now the organisation responsible for the Bath Contemporary Art Fair, which happens in Spring during the Bath Festival, has arranged an equivalent four-day event during the Edinburgh Festival. Like Bath, the Edinburgh fair is relatively small: 30 galleries from all over Britain will be showing. Particularly strong in contemporary Scottish painters. Royal College of Physicians, Queen Street, Edinburgh (0491 410222) Today, tomorrow and Sunday, 10.30-7pm. Monday 10.30am-5pm.

● **OLD MASTER DRAWINGS.** The Ashmolean has one of the greatest collections of Old Master drawings in the world. Normally only a small percentage is on show, but the European Arts Festival has persuaded the museum to bring out some of its riches. This amazing selection, first seen in Rome last year, includes five Michelangelos, five Raphaels and two Leonardos, as well as works by Rembrandt, Rubens, Dürer, Claude, Watteau, Holbein, Gainsborough and Rowlandson. Ashmolean Museum, Oxford (0865 278000) Tues-Sat 10am-4pm, Sun 2-4pm, until October 11.

JOHN RUSSELL TAYLOR

CINEMA: INTERVIEW

A patriot just as likely to plant the flag as he is to wave it

Film producer
Jeremy Thomas,
next chairman
of the British
Film Institute,
explains his ideas
to Oscar Moore

The news that Jeremy Thomas will succeed Sir Richard Attenborough as chairman of the British Film Institute next year was greeted in film circles with pleased surprise. Of all the candidates for the job — they stretched from David Putnam, the bookies' favourite, to Sir Geoffrey Howe, the political outsider — Thomas is the most easily identified as being of the industry, not the Establishment. While Attenborough, the chairman for all seasons, straddled the roles of Downing Street darling, emotive fund-raiser and actor-turned-director, he was essentially a local phenomenon. Even his Hollywood dalliances had a British resonance: the film equivalent of local tea.

Thomas, on the other hand, will bring to the BFI instant international kudos, based on a lifetime's work that has lately been overshadowed by his nine-Oscar, \$200 million phenomenon, Bertolucci's *The Last Emperor*. Few producers have succeeded so consistently in surprising critics, public and sometimes financiers and distributors with such an eclectic opus, distinguished by its daring and integrity. Very few film-makers have also seized so swiftly the idea that film was the perfect meeting place for international talents.

While most of the British film industry was staring at the Pinewood back garden looking for the ghost of the *Carry On* cast (which Thomas's father Gerald had taken through its ribald paces ten times) Thomas was mingling with a roster of directors that reads like a film buff's roll of honour. Jeremy Thomas is not an easy man to pigeonhole. The man Bertolucci described as a huggable "bear" is elusive and recent, keen to take the back seat on the publicity podium. But at a time when producers starved by a "once burnt twice shy" City need to turn to Europe and Canada for partners, Thomas demonstrates a "who dares wins" attitude to the baulking logistics of big-budget multinational filmmaking. In addition, he has remained resolutely outé and

has proved that ambitious films with major talents for international audiences do not have to be the sole property of the Hollywood studios. The style of Thomas's international collaborations helped set an early precedent for contemporary producers faced by circumstances to stitch together patchwork finance from a variety of European, Japanese and North American sources. What is necessary now, however, was adventure then. While today's producers are forced abroad by domestic drought, Thomas's early forays abroad were motivated by wanderlust and ambition.

Thomas admits that he was born, in 1947, with a cinematic silver spoon in his mouth. As father shepherd the Sid James ensemble round the roses of the Pinewood gardens, son spent his holidays and weekends playing on the back lot. The fantasy world of the film studio was his boyhood reality.

"I was incredibly fortunate to have been born into a very vibrant time in British cinema," he says. "From my earliest memories I was surrounded by cinema actors and the smell of a film set. Still now, when I go to a film set, it has a particular smell for me that is so evocative of my childhood it chokes me up. There was a galaxy and glamour to Pinewood which is



Jeremy Thomas: "The government has been unfair; the film industry needs support"

not the sad, down-at-heel mess that we've got now. So as soon as I left school, at 17, I went straight into the film laboratory."

But Thomas was never going to be the quiet apprentice, patiently waiting to rise up the intricate hierarchy of the British film industry. "I had a friend, an Australian called Philippe Mora, whom I had edited a film for. He was trying to put a film together called *Mad Dog* and told me we could get some money in Australia." Raising

money in Britain had proved a fruitless task. "We went to Australia and it happened. I managed to get in on the beginning of a movement, with an Australian director. I was 23 and I was trying to hustle."

With *Mad Dog* as his ticket, Thomas made his Cannes debut and immediately started working on the financing of his next feature, putting together the pieces of *The Shout*, a Robert Graves short story which a friend had adapted for the screen. Thomas, already the film cosmopolitan,

had attached Polish director Jerzy Skolimowski to the project and with his Down Under hustle behind him, managed to find financing from American and European sources, with the support of the then National Film Finance Corporation and the Rank Organisation.

That was one of the last times that British backing would provide Thomas with core financing. Rank, which provided most of the money for *Bad Timing*, Thomas's first collaboration with Nicholas Roeg, was so appalled by

the film's necrophiliac subject matter that it left the project.

Since then Thomas has continued to base himself out of London: indeed, his richest rewards have been found at Cannes. "Cannes has been pivotal in my existence as an independent film-maker," he says. "I find it is a very fertile and productive fortnight when all the film-makers, financiers and distributors from around the world get together in one place. You can get an incredible dialogue going. I have been able to set up films at Cannes year after year."

Cannes also proved to be Thomas's springboard into the rarefied club of international film-making where he has long enjoyed prominence: as producer of Oshima (*Merry Christmas Mr Lawrence*), Bertolucci (*The Last Emperor*), *The Sheltering Sky*, and now *Little Buddha*, Roeg (*Bad Timing*, *Eureka*, *Insignificance*) and now David Cronenberg (*The Naked Lunch*).

Meanwhile Thomas, like his contemporaries, has campaigned against the slow disintegration of the British film industry. "It's very sad. It's all gone. All our craftsmen have gone. It's happening all over Europe."

"Rank, of course, historically were a beacon. But they didn't have an appetite for producing films any more. It was all to do with profit. But I think the government has been unfair: the film industry needs support. I certainly benefited from government support when I started, but bit by bit all the various help has been dismantled. At the time I was a kid Pinewood was a fully operational studio with all the departments, just like Hollywood."

Of course, for the majority, the alternative has been Hollywood, but Thomas has resisted its pull. "I have never been successful enough to have a ticket that I wanted to travel with in America. Even after *The Last Emperor*, nine Oscars and \$200 million gross that was not enough to generate what I was looking for: freedom and the ability to work without total scrutiny."

PROMS: ALBERT HALL/RADIO 3

Moved in many different ways

DAVID SAWER's new orchestral piece, *Byrman Wood*, unveiled in Tuesday night's outstanding Prom, demonstrates that he is more concerned with investigating the illusions possible in music than with writing in a deliberately crowd-pleasing way, though he did please this crowd. The illusion he explores here is that what seems still can be in motion — hence the Shakespearean reference of the title (to Birman Wood in *Macbeth*). It all depends on the angle of view, and that changes throughout the piece. That sounds an unduly intellectual premise, but Sawyer makes exertion easy, because he writes so beguilingly for the orchestra.

To take an instance, he places his sounds so that one instrument, say a horn, takes over where another, say an alto flute, leaves off, without any discernible jump from one timbre to another. Deliberate hiccupps there are, however, in the hocketings that delineate the closer views of the wood's advance.

Sawer has highly individual ideas, and just as our viewing angles change, so does our distance from the action. If one were to suggest any model, it would be Ligeti, though Sawyer's sense of drama, form and ritual is already his own. My single misgiving, untrustworthy on one hearing, is that Sawyer has perhaps written slightly long.

The ominous implications of Sawyer's piece were reflected in the other two works in this concert. John Tomlinson, commanding if perhaps a little unvarying in dynamic, sang the testing bass solo in Shostakovich's Symphony No 13, "Babi Yar" — surely this composer's most courageous and powerful statement given the time (1962) and place of its composition. The men of the London Philharmonic Choir and Southwark Festival Chorus provided solid choral backbone, always firm-toned.

Rachmaninov's *The Isle of the Dead*, with Charon's disturbing 5/8 hullyaby rhythm, established the dark mood at the beginning of the concert. Under Mark Wigglesworth's clear-sighted yet impassioned conducting, the BBC Symphony Orchestra's playing was both highly motivated and technically impressive throughout.

How unfair that the youthful Soloists of the Moscow Conservatoire, a 20-strong group of string players directed by the viola player Yuri Bashmet, were obliged to follow such a concert. They did well, demonstrating impressive unanimity and among a



Mark Wigglesworth: impassioned conducting

vast dynamic and tonal armoury a wondrously controlled pianissimo. Perhaps Mahler's expanded version (as realised by David Matthews and Donald Mitchell) of Schubert's Quartet "Death and the Maiden" did lose some of the original's bite and thrust. Afterwards, Alfred Schnittke's relatively brief, elegiac *Monologue* (1989) gave Bashmet the chance to display his abundant lyrical gifts, while Tchaikovsky's *Serenade* sounded, in these players' capable hands, quite new and lovely.

STEPHEN PETTITT

Too scary to discuss?

Rachel Sharpe died from meningococcal meningitis at the age of two and a half. The attack was frighteningly sudden and virulent. On the Saturday she was playing as normal at her home in Sutton Coldfield; by the Monday afternoon she was dead.

Her mother, Kerry, 28, barely knew the meaning of the word meningitis before Rachel's death in April last year; now she is trying to dispel the ignorance which surrounds the disease. Many parents will have been encouraged by the announcement this week from the health department that the haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib) vaccine will be introduced into the programme of immunisation for children in October.

Hib, it was said, is the most frequent cause of bacterial meningitis in the under fives and kills 65 people every year. But according to the charity Meningitis Research Appeal, figures for 1988 and 1989, the latest available, show that meningococcal meningitis (another bacterial form) is more prevalent among the under-fives than Hib, and it has no reason to think that this has changed. There is, as yet, no vaccine for meningococcal meningitis.

The Hib vaccine is, however, very good news, according to the charity. Kate Croizat, its national information officer, says: "It is very effective and has no serious side-effects. But we are concerned that it is being hailed as a vaccine against all forms of meningitis which it isn't. It only works against one form [Hib]."

Mrs Sharpe has often found when distributing leaflets or posters for the Meningitis Research Appeal that "a lot of mothers turn away. They don't want to think about it because it's too scary. That makes me cross but I might have done the same at one time. You like to think there is a cure for everything in this day and age."

After Rachel died Mrs Sharpe found out a lot about the disease and realised that her daughter had had all the symptoms on the Sunday she became ill. "She was turning away from the light, she had a particular kind of rash and when the doctor straightened her out she cried out which must have been her stiff neck."

As Rachel deteriorated the spots turned to bruises, the doctor was recalled and the child admitted to intensive care where she died a few hours later with her mother and father at her bedside.

Meningitis, which kills more

Meningitis kills more than 400 people a year in Britain. Liz Gill asks if a new vaccine will save children's lives

than 400 people a year in this country, is of two main types: bacterial and viral. The most common forms of bacterial meningitis are Hib, which hits the under-fives and accounts for 17 per cent of meningitis cases, and meningococcal, which can strike any age group, and accounts for 41 per cent of cases. Viral meningitis, although less dangerous than bacterial, can produce a serious illness, albeit one that is not usually fatal.

Death when it occurs is either a result of brain damage—meningitis means damage to the lining of the brain—or of septicaemia and shock due to the rapid proliferation of the bacteria. Of those who survive, one in seven may suffer varying degrees of brain damage and hearing loss.

Treatment is by large doses of antibiotics administered as quickly as possible, hence the need for rapid diagnosis. "Because it mimics flu in the early stages it can often be mistaken for that and many GPs are not as aware as they should be," Mrs Croizat says. The appeal has just launched a video for doctors featuring real cases.

Kim Taylor, 34, from Teddington, west London, has no doubt that a doctor's alertness saved her son, Ben, when he developed meningococcal meningitis at 13 months. "He became poorly one evening. We thought it was a tooth coming through, coupled with a flu bug. He was being sick, he was lethargic and clammy and had a slight rash."

"Then early in the morning he seemed to change. I rang the emergency service and they told me to bring him to the surgery when it opened. But I pestered for the doctor to come and the locum rang me. When I explained, she was absolutely horrified. She said, 'It could be serious, get him to casualty now. Time is of the essence.' She rang back a couple of minutes later to say they were waiting for me."

"I was absolutely terrified. As we drove him there I was shouting at

him to keep him conscious. When we got to hospital they cut his clothes off and he was covered in this purple rash and bruises. I've never seen anything go so fast. Within five minutes he was on five drips. There were a few critical days but he made a complete recovery."

That was nearly two years ago and since then Mrs Taylor and her husband, Mark, who both work in advertising, have helped to raise £50,000 towards research into the disease. One event featured the comedians Hale and Pace. Norman Pace's daughter suffered some brain damage after an attack of meningitis.

"We were very lucky. If we had waited we would have lost him," Mrs Taylor says. "It makes me shake just to think of it."

Many aspects of the disease are still unexplained. Researchers have not been able to discover why it runs in ten to 15 year cycles, cases in Britain have increased by 100 per cent in the past decade, Mrs Croizat says. It is also unclear why meningitis clusters in different parts of the country. Coventry is presently experiencing a cluster. An outbreak in Stroud some years ago led to investigations into water and electricity supplies, and other environmental factors, but all proved inconclusive.

Ten per cent of the population are believed to be unwitting carriers of the bacteria. Problems arise either when they have close contact with someone who has no natural immunity or when their own immune system becomes weakened, giving the bacteria the chance to develop and spread.

If the use of Hib vaccine becomes widespread then a certain amount of "herd immunity" to that particular strain of bacterial meningitis should develop.

Noel Preston, a retired medical microbiologist who is an advisor to the World Health Organisation, says: "If, say, 90 per cent of the population is immunised, germs cannot readily jump from one host to another because there are not

enough susceptible people around. That's what happened with diphtheria which is now virtually extinct. Polio is similarly very well controlled. The danger to the 10 per cent who are not vaccinated is if they go abroad."

The health department said this week that last year, for the first time, there were no child deaths from measles or whooping cough in England and Wales. It was also disclosed that record numbers of children had been immunised against infectious diseases. Dr Preston says that the present rates of immunisation for diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough (given in the first year of life) and measles, mumps and rubella (given in the second) represent a return to levels achieved in the late 1960s and early 1970s.

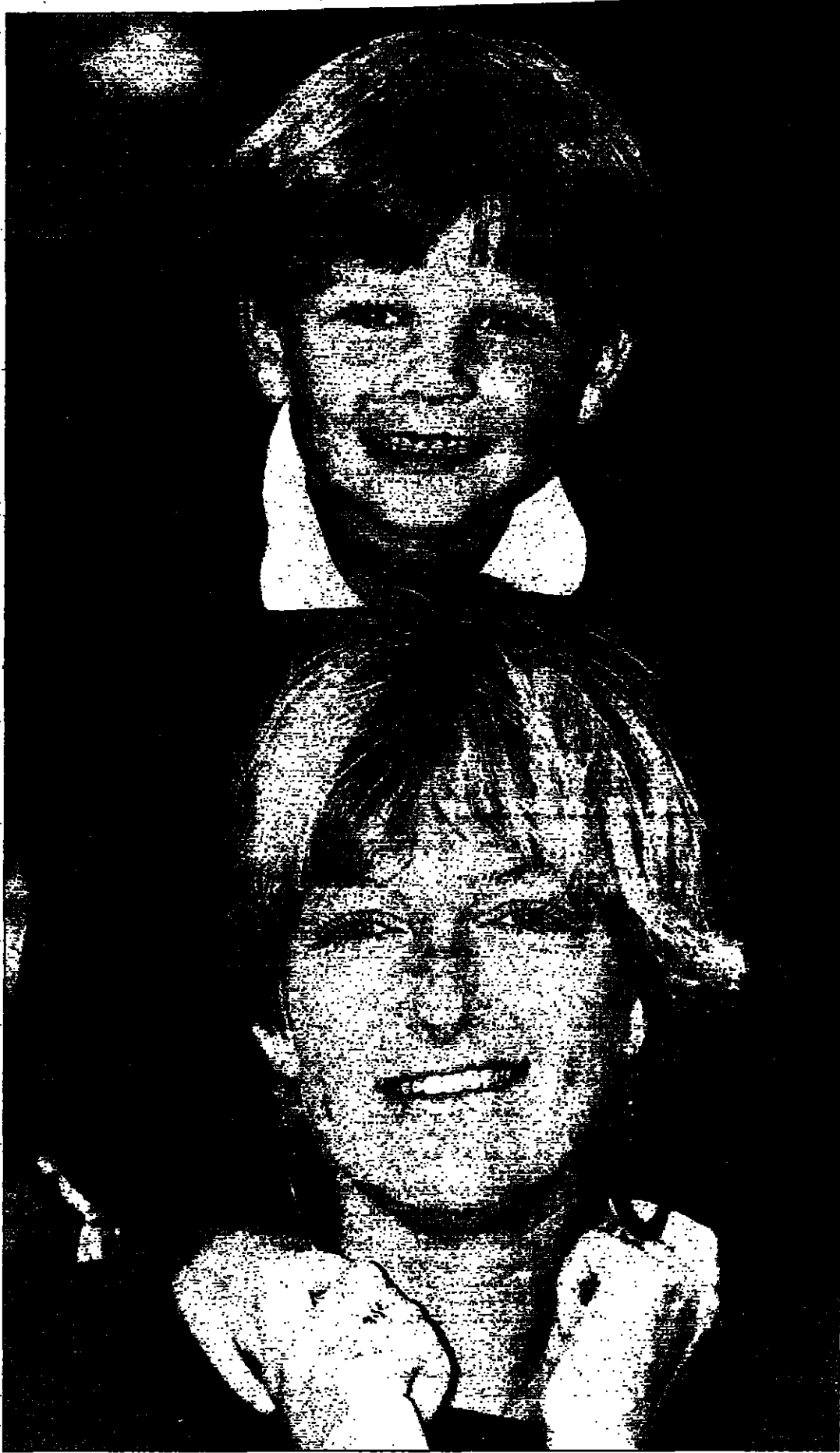
He says: "Some people argue that these diseases are declining naturally because of improvements in general health. While it is true that the fitter you are the more readily you can throw something off, we still found that when immunisation rates dropped we got the return of whooping cough epidemics."

David Baum, the director of the Institute of Child Health, in Bristol, says: "In 1996 it will be the 200th anniversary of Jenner's first smallpox vaccine and smallpox is now clinically extinct. Polio is going the same way and these latest figures on the uptake of immunisation are continuing the wonderful story."

"On the other hand there is a whole list of diseases and chronic conditions on which we have made almost no inroads, such as viral pneumonias, diabetes, asthma, cerebral palsies, rheumatoid arthritis, epilepsy and psychological disorders. There is no decline in the number of malignancies though we are having a better success rate in battling against them."

Dr Preston does not think that there are any new conditions that could offset the triumph over those diseases that used to routinely kill thousands of children, though tuberculosis he says is "staging a bit of a comeback" and asthma appears to be on the increase, "though doctors may just be more aware of it."

He says: "You would hope parenthood might be a bit more relaxed these days with so many of these life-threatening illnesses gone but it seems to be human nature to worry. If there is nothing serious to worry about, they start worrying about other things."



Quick act: Kim Taylor says a doctor's alertness saved her son, Ben, when he developed meningitis

Can health education save the sickness capital of the world?

Comic effect brings ills into sharp focus

Real-life Rab C. Nesbitt can be encountered all over Glasgow. They may not all sport a string vest and head bandage like the character in the BBC2 comedy series, or deliver the same lurching rant. But they do carry similar props: a fish supper and a can of lager.

The Rab C. Nesbitt Syndrome—sickness to a poor diet in defiance of successive public-health campaigns—is no laughing matter for those grappling with the appalling record of sickness and disease in Scotland's largest city. "Glasgow's Alive" may be the city's marketing slogan, but the brutal truth is that a depressing number of Glaswegians will die prematurely because of their unhealthy lifestyle.

Glasgow is acknowledged by its own health board to be the lung-cancer capital of the western world. It also has one of the highest coronary death rates in the world. Indeed, heart disease, cancer, strokes and respiratory illness together account for 80 per cent of all deaths in the city. Although some aspects of health in Glasgow are improving, they

are doing so more slowly than in other parts of Britain.

Smoking-related illnesses have fallen in Glasgow over the last three years, but only among men. Smoking is becoming increasingly prevalent among younger women, with the result that premature cancer deaths overall are on course to rise by 10 per cent by 2000.

Still, Glaswegians do not seem too pessimistic about their health prospects. A survey commissioned recently by the Greater Glasgow Health Board found that two-thirds of the city's 696,577 inhabitants rated their own state of health as excellent or good.

Another recent survey produced even more disturbing findings: 83 per cent of Scots do not care about what they eat and 46 per cent make little or no effort to follow a healthy diet. The poll, conducted by Mori across Scotland, found a widespread belief that health food is expensive as well as "boring" or "tasteless."

So what is Greater Glasgow Health Board doing to alter these perceptions? Its most recent response has been a £600,000 multi-media campaign aimed at promoting healthier lifestyles.

"Get up and Glasgow", with pop-promote-style television advertisements, is one of the biggest campaigns of its kind undertaken by any health board in the UK. The 15-29 age group makes up 24 per cent of the Glasgow's population and the campaign is pitched primarily at the city's young people.

The adverts, backed up by posters on the sides of buses, radio sponsorship and health promotion events, focus on smoking, drinking, lack of exercise and poor nutrition.

"We have gone out of our way not to preach or lecture," Phil Hanon, Glasgow's director of health promotion, says. "Young people tend to think they are indestructible, and offering them a couple of extra years' life when they are 65 is not a great motivator."

Exhorting young people to adopt a healthier lifestyle is, in one sense, an easy strategy. Glasgow teenagers tend to enjoy the same state of health wherever they live in the city. But, among adults, there are



Rab C. Nesbitt: See you? You're unhealthy, so you are

glaring health inequalities. A comparison between two communities in the northeast fringe of the city brings the divide into sharp focus. Drumchapel is a vast post-war council housing estate, and Bearsden is a comfortable suburb. Although these two communities exist cheek by jowl, people who live in Drumchapel are almost twice as likely to die from heart disease as those in Bearsden.

Greater Glasgow Health Board collaborated recently with a local newspaper, the *Evening Times*, to publish the first comprehensive health profile of the city in accessible format. As well as providing advice on healthier lifestyles, the 96-page paperback identified poverty as one of the main factors contributing to Glasgow's continued ill health.

At the launch of *Long Live Glasgow*, the board called on the government and the European Community to designate Glasgow as a special case, to

enable it to receive priority funding. The board has also forecast that Glasgow's health record will deteriorate by 2000 unless there is a dramatic improvement in the key social areas of poverty, employment and housing. The unemployment rate in Glasgow (16 per cent overall, 21.5 per cent for men) is almost twice the UK average.

The authors concluded: "If the whole of the UK returned statistics like these, there is little doubt that central government would long ago have set in place special measures to deal with a problem that manifested itself on such a dramatic and alarming scale."

The blunt message from Glasgow's health promotion chiefs is that it simply is not good enough to tell the Rab C. Nesbitts to pull themselves up by their own bootstraps; public agencies must also tackle the social problems which give rise to unhealthy lifestyles.

ROB BROWN

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Diet, sun and gall-stones

AUGUST has its compensation for those whose work keeps them in London. Traffic moves faster, parking is easier but even so, rather than gratitude for the absence of the holidaymaker, is felt by most people when postcards arrive showing browned bodies on sandy beaches.

Doctors have always been regarded as sports about sun worshipping. For decades dermatologists have been anxious about the effects of excessive sunlight on skin and they have now convinced the public of the association between excessive sunbathing and skin malignancy.

Ophthalmologists worry that sunbathers who lie on the beach will develop cataracts. The human body evolved partly in order to shade the orbit, a device rendered useless when holidaymakers lie rather than sit or walk in the sun. Venerologists warn herpes sufferers that sunlight can cause trouble and chest physicians that pulmonary TB is made worse by exposure to the sun's rays.

A recent report in *The Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health* suggests now that gastroenterologists may join their colleagues in condemning sunbathing. A group of Dutch research workers has detected an apparent association between sunbathing and gall-stones and claims that gall-stones were particularly likely to develop in those who had a



MEDICAL BRIEFING
Dr Thomas Stuttford

sun-sensitive skin. Possibly the Dutch statistics only re-state the old adage that gall-stones are more common in patients who are fair, fat, female and 40.

The stones form in the gall-bladder, the organ tucked away under the liver which acts as a reservoir for bile, which is essential for digestion. Gall-stones, despite the old adage, can affect any age group. They are found in adolescents but they do become increasingly common as age advances. In the Western world 10 per cent of those under 40, if investigated, can be shown to have gall-stones and the figure rises to 20 per cent for older age groups. There is a genetic as well as an environmental influence. Some families and races are particularly predisposed to them; 70 per cent, for instance, of adult American Indians have them and they are commoner in all oriental and Indian races, whether from the Indian

subcontinent or from South America. Diet is a significant factor in the production of gall-stones: a high fat diet is blamed as was alcohol. Recent research may cheer drinkers as it is suggested that it is the sugar in the mixer, rather than the raw spirit, which is responsible.

There are other known risk factors for the development of gall-stones: women develop them more than men; if heavy drinking leads to cirrhosis the incidence increases; other gastro intestinal diseases including Crohn's Disease, and obesity for whatever reason are all significant factors in their development.

Doctors argue about the symptoms gall-stones can cause. They are often accused of being responsible for upper abdominal discomfort, indigestion, flatulence, bloating and an intolerance to fats but doubts are expressed about the case against them. Certainly if the gall-bladder becomes inflamed as in cholecystitis, or a stone sticks in the bowel duct, the pain is all too obvious.

The good news is that 40 per cent of patients who are found to have gall-stones have no symptoms, but even then the difficult decision has to be made whether to operate, possibly unnecessarily, in order to avoid the complications of cholecystitis, a blocked bowel duct, pancreatitis or even cancer of the gall-bladder.



Why Bush should eat up his broccoli

JUST AS the medical advisors to the European Community pour scorn on the use of vitamin supplements and threaten to control their sale in Britain, yet another independent research project suggests that the anti-oxidant vitamins C and beta-carotene may have an important role in preserving sight.

The *BMJ* reports that Dr Susan Hankinson from the Harvard Medical School in the United States has studied the dietary habits of more than 50,000 women of 50 and over

who needed surgery for cataracts. It seems that American women, if they want to avoid cataracts, should not only forgo sunbathing but should follow the advice of Popeye to eat up their greens, rather than that of their president, who has already aired his dislike of broccoli.

Beta-carotene, a precursor of vitamin A, seems to be particularly important. Those with the highest intake of vitamin A and beta-carotene from vegetables, spinach is more, beneficial than carrot,

had nearly 40 per cent fewer cataracts. Women who took vitamin C supplements for at least ten years reduced the chance of developing a cataract by 45 per cent.

MUMS magazine discloses that a study is in progress in Oxford at the Nuffield Laboratory of Ophthalmology to discover whether anti-oxidant vitamin supplements can also influence cataract development. The first results should be available next year.

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No thanks for these memories

The old man turns politely to the old woman, as she stands at the sink peeling potatoes. "Excuse me," he says. "Are you one of the two ladies who runs this establishment?" "Yes, I am," she replies, without batting an eyelid. "When you see the other one tell her to come and see me." A normal conversation between a resident and a carer, you may think. Except these two people have spent almost 50 years of their lives together in the very house where they raised a family of four. They are my mother and father.

In recent months my mother has learnt to play along with the bizarre conversations initiated by Father, without becoming angry and upset. But it is not easy. Mother herself is struggling with serious memory impairment. His "funny turns" are recurring more frequently and these mental aberrations will continue and worsen.

Alzheimer's disease is the culprit, although neither of them have heard the word from our lips. What is the point of trying to explain the course of an incurable organic brain disease which reduces a person to a vegetable, given time. It is kinder just to talk of growing old.

My parents illustrate two types of dementia, but other combinations exist. My father's condition, Alzheimer's disease, is creeping destruction of the brain cells which alters the perception of reality, sometimes creating delusions, paranoia, personality change and general craziness. Although doctors hope to develop a way of controlling its grisly progress, at present management, not medication, is how it is treated. The disease is an insidious invasion of the grey matter, arriving silently and almost imperceptibly. The subtle changes affect the ability to assimilate and act upon new information. Decision-making becomes increasingly stressful; blunders multiply.

In Father's case, mistakes in the domestic setting are inconsequential and none has, to date, been serious. But, for younger people, often at the peak of their careers, covering up errors becomes a major pre-occupation.

About two out of a hundred dementia sufferers are aged between 40 and 65. And the higher up the job ladder of success the harder the fall. To be struck down by cancer, a heart attack or multiple sclerosis in your prime is no joke but, at least, these conditions are identifiable and understood by the lay public in other words colleagues, family and friends are indisputably on your side.

Alzheimer's in a younger sufferer often involves years of unspeakable misery before a diagnosis is made. So the victim is branded with attributions of laziness, incompetence, dishonesty and sticking on

As pressure on families to look after frail elderly relatives increases, a personal story from Lesley Pross

In a strange way I feel more warmth for them in their vulnerable, dependent old age than when we were all equal adults. Now, like children, they need only our love

of qualitative changes in behaviour that the problem can be identified early.

Not that it is news I would ever want to hear about either myself or my partner. Emotionally and rationally I can cope with my parents' plight. And in a strange way I feel more warmth for them now in their vulnerable, dependent old age than when we were all equal adults.

Their weakness has dissipated by ambivalent feelings, my frustration with their inadequate and inappropriate ways of relating to each other and to us, as the children of their marriage—at least, that's the way I saw it. Now, like children themselves, they need only our love.

But I do not fancy life in their twilight zone, where one sees through a glass darkly. Nor do I feel I could watch my partner slump into premature senility with equanimity and forbearance. I will lay my cards on the table. I am an atheist. I see human beings as a unique social species with an amazing capacity for reasoning and interaction through the medium of language and culture. Our higher cognitive processes and complex relationships give us a rich and powerful sense of self—a unique identity. Stripped of this, existence is meaningless and I want

no part of it. In other words, if it comes to the crunch, I want to be humanely "put down".

Which brings me back to my parents, who are still far removed from the living dead. My mother does not have Alzheimer's but multi-infarct dementia caused by small strokes blocking up the blood vessels; her personality is intact although her brain power is greatly diminished; but she knows exactly who she is, where she is and what she's about; she adores her family, remembers birthdays, and asks about the things that are important to each one of us.

On the down side, she becomes quite muddled very quickly when under pressure to think; interacting with strangers is difficult as she tends to be over-anxious and project her fears on to them; she is chronically poor at remembering times and days of the week, also when to eat, and sometimes what to eat (she has become too thin). Mild paranoia and forgetfulness have always been part of her persona, only now they are more pronounced.

However, everything is relative. And in their familiar, safe environment they stimulate each other, although Mother has the heavy end of the stick. She keeps the show on the road by running the house—with intermittent visits from the family. They could do with daily help but a stranger in their home is not a thought my mother would relish. Father is able to potter off to shops and bank with his debit card, which he has not managed to lose yet.

They go for walks to the shore and enquire about the waves or the sky or the boats. Father still loves his garden. "See the potatoes—mountainous," he told me immediately on my arrival last week. In his custom-built greenhouse tomatoes are forming on the truss. Obviously, he is coping with watering. The old patterns of behaviour are the ones that survive, giving continuity and meaning to their lives. They watch the news at six and attend church when they remember. Their experience could be likened to that of children—lacking control, limited in understanding and dominated by overwhelming feelings.

I see my role as one of helping to give their existence value—listening, comforting, explaining, monitoring—prolonging their independence. I hope they see their golden wedding anniversary next year but their emerald and diamond ones, five and ten years hence are not events I care to envisage. I hope the game's up by then. They have fought the good fight.

Further information from the Alzheimer's Disease Society, 159-160 Balham High Road, London SW12 9BN (081-675 6557).



The final years: this week a report by the King's Fund Institute said greater demands would be made on the families of the elderly

You don't have to be over 60 to sail and run several hundred miles this weekend—but it helps

Taken with a pinch of old salts

I all began on the heights of Wimbledon Common in a pub called the Fox & Grapes where the older members of the world's oldest running club, Thames Hare and Hounds, meet on a Saturday evening. There was a four-pint jug of bitter on the table and we had all been for a run and were feeling quietly satisfied. David, a youth in his forties, began to discuss a race which involved 500 miles of sailing and 80 miles of running.

I have been involved before in similar pub discussions: the monster which is now the London marathon was born of such a meeting in a pub which is about six good running-miles from the Fox & Grapes, but there is a heck of a difference between 26 miles on the roads and 80 miles across rough country. Besides, you don't need a boat to run a marathon.

Knowing that we did not have a boat and that the idea would disappear once we got out into the fresh air, I suggested that we should prove that the old are not as old as they look, and that we should enter a team whose average age was over 60.

The idea did blow itself out of my mind as I bicycled home across the common, but I had not reckoned on young David. A few weeks later, he announced that he had found a boat, a fast, comfortable 44ft cruiser-racer and some ancient mariners prepared "to have a go".

Ronnie Williams, the club's doctor, who is 66 and still carries the same weight, about ten and a half stone, as he did when he ran for Cambridge, said that he would start training immediately. So now I was hoist with my own damn fool idea. And the more I looked into it, the more damn fool it became.



Still in the running: Chris Brasher and, right, racing with Chris Chataway

small but classy fleet.

The race starts tomorrow in the Solent, from where we make passage for between 36 and 48 hours to Salcombe, where the runners disembark and two of us run for 20 miles along the south-west coastal path to Dartmouth. We then chamber stiffly aboard, sail to Exmouth, run to the Royal Marines endurance course, complete that purgatory of mud and underwater tunnels and then sail to Albany in the Channel Islands. We are then faced with a ten-mile diff-top circuit, a 20-hour passage to Polruan in Cornwall, 30 miles of coastal path to Plymouth, another 20 hours or so of rough water to Yarmouth on the Isle of Wight, and

If we survive and complete the course we are bound to win our class because we invented the 'average-age-over-60' rule

another ten-mile run before the final passage to the finish line in the River Hamble, where the trophies will be waiting for us.

According to the Olympic code, taking part is more important than winning. But it is also nice to win and provided that we survive and complete the course we are bound to win our class because we invented the "average-age-over-60" rule and nobody else has challenged us. We have chosen the trophies: six

pint-sized pewter tankards with glass bottoms to ensure that when we see another damn fool idea approaching we can tell it to go away.

So far I have only introduced two of the fools: the lean, 66-year-old Ronnie and myself (2st over my racing weight of 10st 6lb). The third runner was supposed to be a major general who is remarkably fleet of foot, but as soon as he heard that we had to negotiate the Royal Marines endurance course, he excused himself with a story about some parachuting injury to his back. However, Jan Hildreth, the former director general of the Institute of Directors and a mere 59-year-old, said yes. "It was sheer incompetence," he

says. "I agreed before I had time to think about it."

The sailors are all Sussex men. Bill Lee, who lives on the shore of Chichester Harbour, owns the boat which he calls Camur because he bought it with some of the money which Tarmac paid when it bought his company.

Bill has persuaded us, quite rightly, that we should have a sensible reason for embarking on this challenge, he says, is normally tackled by ultra-fit young men and women. So we "soldier" are trying to promote awareness of a disease which strikes the middle-aged and elderly at the rate of ten per day. It is called myeloma and it is a "soft cancer", like leukaemia. Indeed, it is the Leukaemia Research Fund which finances research into this terrible disease which has attacked a member of Bill's family.

The skipper is a real old salt: Colin Groves, a 61-year-old yachtmaster who has been teaching sailing to people of all ages and all abilities for 15 years. I said I thought he was a very brave man to offer to command such a rabble of old men: "No difficulty," he said. "As long as we treat it as a bit of a jolly rather than a flat-out, full-blooded attempt to take line honours."

There's not much chance of line honours because today will be our first test in putting up the spinnaker, which I gather is a rather large and powerful sail.

The third member of the crew is another doctor, Jack Saunders, 67-years-old—that gives us a doctor with the sailors, while the other doctor is with the runners.

I hope that we will all survive to drink a pint out of our new tankards next Friday, but just in case we don't, I've said a fond farewell to my wife. She always has the last word and this time it was "When will you ever grow up?"

CHRIS BRASHER

CORRECTION

IN A feature on the overthrow of President Gorbachev ("What shall we tell the president?", August 18), we wrongly used a picture of Grigory Baklanov, the Russian writer, instead of that of Oleg Baklanov, the former Soviet defence council deputy chief. We apologise for the error.

TIMES/DILLONS LECTURE: MATTER OF THE MIND

Mystery of the brain

How and when was the human brain formed? What is the difference between mind and soul? Technical advances in biology are bringing scientists closer to the answers to ancient questions. Now, to coincide with the publication of *Bright Air, Brilliant Fire: On the Matter of the Mind* by Gerald Edelman, The Times in conjunction with Dillons and Allen Lane The Penguin Press is sponsoring a lecture on this subject.

Dr Edelman, a Nobel laureate

and the director of the Neurosciences Institute, New York, and Oliver Sacks, Professor of Neurology at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, New York. Dr Edelman will speak on biology and the brain, followed by Dr Sacks on neurology and the soul.

The lecture will take place on September 7 at 7.15pm at the Institute of Education, 20 Bedford Way, London WC1. Times readers can obtain tickets by filling in the coupon (below) or contacting Dillons by telephone, fax or in person.



The two speakers: Oliver Sacks, left, and Gerald Edelman

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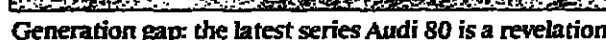
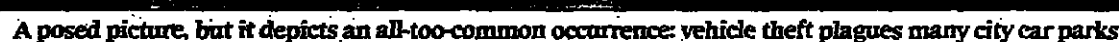
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Nautilus, mystery of the deep

Why did a type of sea creature outlive dinosaurs? Edward Ashpole reports on research into a survivor

When it comes to extinctions, the dinosaurs get all the publicity. But one group of prehistoric animals, the ammonites, were just as successful in their way, and prospered twice as long as the dinosaurs. Only one distant relative of that group exists today, the pearly-shelled Nautilus, but abundant fossils of the ammonites span 330 million years of Earth history, confirming their enormous success.

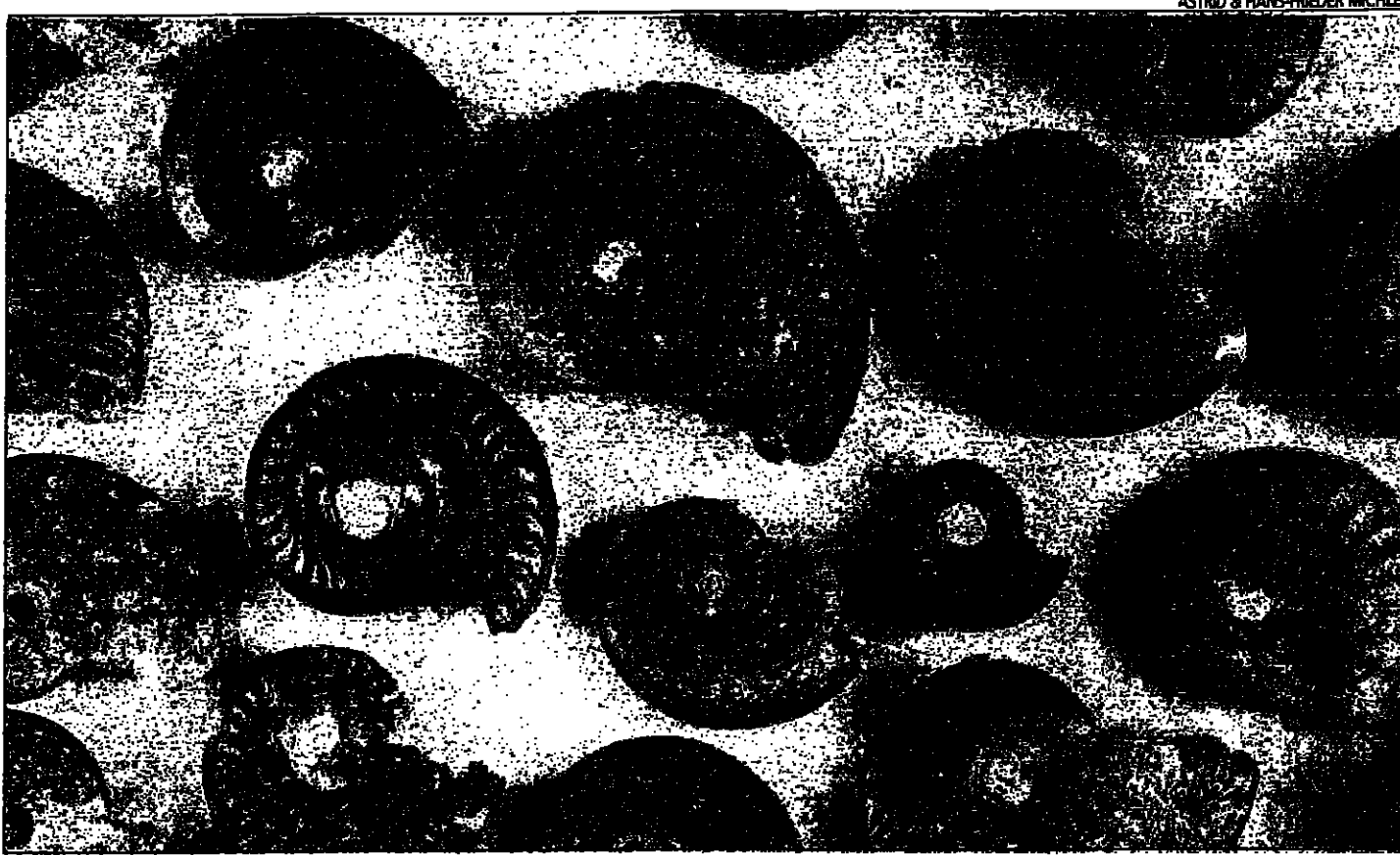
Why, then, did the creatures, which had survived two major geological catastrophes, die out about 66 million years ago when the dinosaurs also perished? Reporting their findings in the *Journal of the Marine Biological Association*, Martin and Joyce Wells, at the University of Cambridge, and Ron O'Dor, in Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, describe what probably happened.

The subject of their research, Nautilus, the "living fossil", is so called because fossils of similar animals can be found off Papua New Guinea, where the scientists studied them. The researchers were surprised to find that Nautilus could live for days in water containing little oxygen. "It can apparently survive," say the researchers, "at least for a matter of hours, when oxygen is absent altogether."

Today, the species of Nautilus are rare and limited to parts of the tropics, but the prehistoric ammonites, some of which measured 5ft wide, left their fossils almost everywhere.

Palaeontologists view the ammonites as in some ways the most important group in prehistory because the abundance of their fossils makes them important in dating the fossils of other organisms and geological strata. The evolution of the ammonites was so rapid and the species produced were so numerous that rocks can be dated to within a million years, simply from a study of the ammonites present.

Most of the early nautilus, the ancestors of the coiled ammonites and Nautilus, had long, straight shells and were already living in the



No fossil fools: ammonites lived twice as long as the dinosaurs, often surviving for days in water without oxygen, and one species still exists

seas more than 500 million years ago. Like the ammonites after them, and present-day squids and octopuses, they were carnivorous predators, sometimes 30ft long. All these creatures must have moved, like the modern forms, by jet propulsion, normally backwards when not attacking prey, expelling water with force from a tube.

The unique record of fossil ammonites confirms a dramatic fact about evolution. Twice the ammonites narrowly escaped extinction when global catastrophes wiped out most other life forms. Only a few species got through the Permian and the Triassic geological boundaries, but each time a new dynasty of ammonites evolved to populate the seas.

There is thus a record in stone showing that the path of evolution is not all smooth, as was once thought, but a series of great extinctions followed by a flowering of many new life forms.

According to Dr Martin Wells and his colleagues, it looks as if fish finally drove the ammonites to extinction. As their research showed, Nautilus can live effectively in low levels of oxygen, levels

that existed in the seas when ammonites flourished. But the seas were becoming increasingly oxygenated, which was good for the fishes but not for the ammonites.

Unlike humans and all other vertebrates, Nautilus, the squids and octopuses use copper instead of iron to carry oxygen in their blood — haemocyanin instead of haemo-

globin. The ammonites must have used the same system. This is adequate for survival in low oxygen conditions, but not ideal for an energetic lifestyle, depending on the maximum loading and unloading of oxygen. Haemocyanin has evolved to meet that need.

The atmosphere when the early nautilus lived is believed to have been about 2 per cent oxygen and to have increased to the present level of 21 per cent by the end of the carboniferous period, 280 million years ago. But, as the researchers

put it, "the sea took a long time to catch up". For a long time, oxygen levels in the sea were low for ammonites.

However, as research on Nautilus indicates, that probably suited them, whereas the lifestyle of the evolving fishes needed plenty of oxygen.

By living in deeper water, which would have had a lower oxygen content, the ammonites managed for a while to escape competition from fish. "Most ammonites and their relatives would have lived at depths of between 50 and 300 metres," the scientists say.

"Shallow by Nautilus standards, but deep enough to carry them close to oxygen-depleted regions."

So can the physiology and behaviour of Nautilus tell us anything about the behaviour and physiology of the ammonites and how they eventually became extinct? The researchers are cautious but believe something can be learnt. "Atmospheric oxygen increased rapidly during the Devonian and Carboniferous periods, as the land plants evolved," they say. Consequently, by 300 million years ago, the level

of oxygen was something like the 21 per cent found in today's atmosphere. As the oceans became increasingly oxygenated, the advantage the ammonites had of being able to operate in low oxygen conditions declined. The rapidly evolving fishes therefore pushed the ammonites downwards into regions of lower oxygen.

The researchers believe that the ammonites eventually hit the depth limit set by their buoyancy mechanism. They had nowhere else to go.

The Nautilus line apparently survived only because it had evolved a scavenging way of life in deep water with a low energy requirement. So a great dynasty in the history of life came to an end — but was there a cause common with other groups? For the ammonites to die out at about the same time as the dinosaurs, and many other groups would be too much of a coincidence. Almost certainly a catastrophe befell our planet 66 million years ago, probably the arrival of a large meteorite or cluster of meteorites, which would have made life more difficult for the ammonites. But the extinction of the ammonites after 330 million successful years may, like the end of the dinosaurs, remain a mystery.

Researchers believe that the ammonites eventually had nowhere else to go

Court of Appeal

Law Report August 21 1992

Chancery Division

Doctors to consider capacity of patients who refuse

Property in cash held by agent

In re T (Adult: Medical treatment)

Before Lord Donaldson of Lynton, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Butler-Sloss and Lord Justice Staughton

[Reasons July 30]

Doctors faced with an adult patient's refusal to consent to proposed treatment had to consider the true scope and basis of that refusal. They further had to give careful consideration to the patient's capacity to make the decision at the time it was made, and to whether the patient's refusal represented his own independent decision or had been vitiated by external pressure.

The Court of Appeal so stated giving reasons for dismissing an appeal on July 24 by the Official Solicitor acting on behalf of T, an unconscious female patient, from Mr Justice Ward who, sitting at Nottingham on July 14, had declared on the application of her father that it was lawful for the doctors of the hospital responsible for her care to administer blood to her in the circumstances which had arisen.

Mr James Munby, QC and Mr Christopher Butler for the Official Solicitor, Mr David Stenbridge, QC and Mr Stephen Oliver-Jones for the health authorities, Mr Allan Levy, QC and Mr Peter Rank for the father, Mr Richard Daniel for the mother.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that the appeal was not about the right to die but about the right to choose how to live and whether T really did choose and if

so what choice she had made.

An adult patient like T who suffered from no mental incapacity had an absolute right to choose whether to consent to medical treatment, to refuse it, or to choose one rather than another of the treatments being offered, with the only possible qualification arising where the choice might lead to the death of a viable foetus.

That right of choice existed even if the reasons for making it were rational, irrational, unknown or even non-existent: see *Slidaway v Board of Governors of the Bethlem Royal Hospital and Maudsley Hospital* [1965] AC 871, 904-905.

Role of consent

The law required that an adult patient who was mentally and physically capable of exercising a choice had to consent if his medical treatment was to be lawful. The consent did not have to be in writing and might be inferred from the patient's conduct in the context of the surrounding circumstances. Treatment without consent, or despite a refusal of consent, would constitute trespass to the person and might also constitute a crime.

Where the patient made no choice and was in no position to do so when the need for treatment arose, for example, the emergency situation where the patient was unconscious, the practitioner could lawfully treat him in accordance with his best clinical judgment of what was in his best interests.

T's history

His Lordship referred to T's early life in the custody of her

mother, a fervent Jehovah's Witness whose marriage to the father, who was Jewish, ended in 1975 when T was three years old. The mother had sought to bring T up within the sect, although requiring her custody not to do so. T had however never become a member of that faith.

In 1989, T went to live with her paternal grandmother, resumed a close relationship with her father and began cohabiting with C. On July 1, 1992, when T was 34 weeks pregnant of C's child she was involved in a car road traffic accident.

The hospital advised rest and an analgesic for chest and shoulder pains, but admitted her on July 4 when the pain became more severe. Diagnosed as suffering from pleurisy or pneumonia she was prescribed antibiotics, Pethidin, a narcotic drug, and given oxygen.

His Lordship described how her condition deteriorated during that day and the next. Dosages of Pethidin were maintained regularly and oxygen continued to be given.

At 2.50pm on July 5 a dose of Pethidin was given and later that afternoon T's mother visited her. At 5pm T was joined by her father and was told by T that she used to be Jehovah's Witness, still maintained some beliefs and did not want a blood transfusion.

The staff nurse, thinking that there was no problem as T did not need a transfusion, had attempted to pacify her. Later that night T went into labour and alone with

her mother in the ambulance was transferred to the maternity unit.

It was decided that delivery was to be by caesarian section and shortly afterwards T told the midwife that she did not want a blood transfusion. She repeated the wish to a doctor and asked whether other procedures could be used. The doctor had reassured her, in particular on the basis that transfusions were not often necessary after a caesarian section.

A form of refusal was produced by the midwife. It was not read or explained to T and she simply signed blindly.

In the early hours of July 6 the caesarian section was performed and T was delivered of a stillborn child. That night her condition deteriorated, an abscess having developed in one lung, and she was transferred to the intensive care unit.

There the consultant anaesthetist in charge of the unit would, but for her expressed wishes, have given a blood transfusion. She was put on a ventilator and given paralytic drugs. She remained in a critical condition throughout July 7.

The father and C then sought the help of the court. That was a praiseworthy initiative which, in the circumstances, should have been taken by the hospital authorities on July 6.

The judge heard some evidence, partly by telephone, and directed that it was not unlawful for the hospital to administer a transfusion to T despite the absence of her consent. A transfusion then took place.

On the full hearing on July 10 the judge found that T's mental and physical state on July 5 were such that although she was undoubtedly under her mother's influence, she was capable of reaching and did reach a decision as to her own treatment.

But he also found that she was lulled into a false sense of security by hospital staff and that she had been misinformed as to the availability and effectiveness of alternative procedures. Against that, and the shallowness of her acceptance of the beliefs of the Jehovah's Witnesses he construed her refusal as not extending to the question of whether or not she should receive transfusions in the extreme situation which had arisen.

He had concluded that as she had neither consented nor refused and was no longer able to express any view it was a classic emergency situation in which it was lawful for the doctors to treat her in whatever way they considered, in the exercise of their clinical judgment, was in her best interests.

For the strictly limited purpose of deciding whether the judge's judgment should be affirmed or

reversed, an appellate court should always be slow to reject its findings of fact, since it had had the advantage of seeing and hearing the witnesses, and it should be even slower to do so if the findings it would substitute would lead to the same result.

On that basis, the judge's order would be affirmed although there was abundant evidence which would have justified the court in substituting findings that T was not in a physical or mental condition which enabled her to reach a decision binding on the medical authorities, and that even if, contrary to that view, she would otherwise have been able to reach such a decision, the influence of her mother was such as to vitiate the decision she expressed.

His Lordship set out the facts on which he would have based such findings.

Guidance for doctors and hospitals

Refusal of consent would not necessarily create any problem, where, for example, treatment was not urgent or an alternative treatment to which the patient would consent could be given.

The problem would arise in the comparatively rare situation where the patient declined consent to treatment which in the clinical judgment of his doctors was necessary to save his life or spare irreparable damage being done to his health. It was in that situation that the present appeal afforded guidance.

Prima facie every adult had the right and capacity to decide whether or not to accept medical treatment even where the refusal might risk permanent injury to health or even lead to premature death. That was so despite the strong public interest in preserving the life and health of all citizens.

But the presumption of the capacity to decide was rebuttable.

The patient might be deprived of his capacity by long term mental incapacity, retarded development or by temporary factors such as unconsciousness or confusion or the effects of shock, fatigue, pain or drugs.

If the patient did not have capacity at the time of the purported refusal, and still did not have that capacity, the duty of the doctors was to treat him in whatever way they considered to be in his best interests.

Doctors faced with a refusal of consent had to give careful consideration to what was the patient's capacity to decide at the time the decision was made. It might not be a case of capacity or no capacity, but of reduced capacity.

What mattered was that the doctor should consider whether at that time the patient had a capacity commensurate with the gravity of the decision he pur-

ported to make. The more serious the decision, the greater the capacity required. If the patient had the requisite capacity, they were bound by his decision. If not, they were free to treat him in what they believed to be his best interests.

In some cases doctors would have to consider whether the refusal had been vitiated because it resulted not from the patient's will but from the will of others.

It did not matter that others sought to persuade the patient to refuse, so long as in the end the refusal represented the patient's independent decision. But if his will had been overcome, the refusal would not have represented a true decision.

In that context the relationship of the persuader to the patient, for example, spouse, parent or religious adviser, would be important, because some relationships might readily lend themselves to overbearing the patient's independent will than others did.

In all cases doctors needed to consider what was the true scope and basis of the refusal. Was it intended to apply to the circumstances which had arisen? Was it based on assumptions which in the event had not been realised? A refusal was only effective within its true scope and was vitiated if based on false assumptions.

Although English law did not accept the transatlantic concept of "informed consent" and accordingly would reject any concept of "informed refusal", what was required was that the patient knew in broad terms the nature and effect of the procedure to which consent or refusal was given. There was a duty on doctors to give the patient appropriately full information as to the nature of the proposed treatment and the likely risks, but failure to perform such a duty sounded in negligence and did not act as vitiating consent.

But misinforming the patient, whether innocently or not, and withholding information which was expressly or impliedly sought by the patient might well vitiate either consent or refusal. Furthermore, a hospital refusal forms should be redesigned to bring the consequences of a refusal forcibly to the attention of patients.

In cases of doubt as to the effect of a purported refusal of treatment, where failure to treat threatened the patient's life, or to damage his health irreparably, doctors and health authorities should not hesitate to apply to the courts for assistance.

Lord Justice Butler-Sloss and Lord Justice Staughton delivered concurring judgments.

Solicitors Official Solicitor: Mr A. V. S. Lewington, Birmingham; Smith Partnership, Stoke-on-Trent; Hanchett Jones & Kidgell.

Computers are 'destroying' board games, eliminating the human element

Moves Kasparov will never beat

Jaap van den Herik, one of the world's leading computer programmers for board games, has confirmed that he believes that Gary Kasparov, the world chess champion, will no longer be able to face computers by the year 2000.

Professor van den Herik, of the Limburg University, speaking at the AST Computer Olympiad, which ended in London last week with The Netherlands and Britain winning gold medals, devotes his career to "destroying" board games. He uses computers to analyse games until he finds the basic moves to make defeat impossible.

In the past, he and his team have written computer programmes that have solved or, as Professor van den Herik puts it, "cracked", a number of popular parlour and board games.

Four years ago his computer team analysed the game Connect Four, which no longer has any theoretical meaning. Professor van den Herik has proved that it is a forced win for the side that moves first.

Last year, Professor van den Herik cracked the game of Qubik, which is a form of three-dimensional noughts and crosses. This year at the AST Computer Olympiad in London one of Professor van den Herik's students has destroyed the game of Go Moku.

Professor van den Herik says that chess and draughts are on his list. However he will now be focusing on chess only as, in London this week, Mark Tinsley, an American mathematician, professor acknowledged as the world's best draughts player, played Chinook, a computer program, and lost.

Professor van den Herik is confident that his team of researchers in The Netherlands can reduce all such games to mathematical equations which will eliminate the human element and prove whether one side or the other has a forced win.

He says: "The side that moves first in most of these games will tend to have a win automatically, if only the right move can be found in

the massive forest of variations. The initiative is what is most important."

In an effort to stem the tide of computer intervention in chess, the World Chess Federation at its congress in Manila last month imposed a whole new set of rules, including extraordinarily large entrance fees extending to many thousands of dollars, for any computer scheduled to compete in a chess tournament.

The most medals won at the Olympiad went to the Dutch, who secured five gold medals to Britain's three, ahead of Russia two, Germany two, and the United States, France, and China, one each.

The Computer Olympiad is the fourth of its type to be held and pits "thinking" machines against each other in mental contests such as chess, draughts, bridge, scrabble and backgammon.

The three British gold medals came in scrabble, chess and nine by nine Go, a variation of the Japanese game.

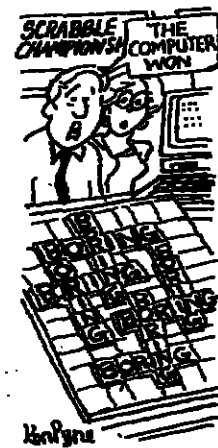
The winner of the scrabble competition was a program written by Richard Hooker, a computer programme from Twickenham, west London.

The Go gold medal was won by Michael Reiss, a PhD in computing science at King's College London, while the gold medal for chess computing was won by Mark Umlaick, also a computer programmer from London.

The star of the competition was Victor Allis, from Limburg University. His programme, called Victoria, won the gold medal in the Japanese game of Go Moku. Not only did Mr Allis win the gold medal, his program realised the worst fears of many games players in that the victorious program actually solved the entire game, and has thus rendered it meaningless from any theoretical point of view.

It has now been proved that the game of Go Moku is a forced win for the player who moves first.

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24 Verb noun (6)
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3 TV quiz team member (9)
4 River search trawl (7)
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6 Auto (3)
7 Curmudgeon and opportunist (13)
13 Artist's paint (3,6)
15 Working fiercely (7)
17 Pass on (5)
20 This moment (3)

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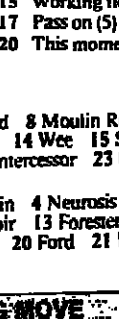
DOWN: 1 Would-be 2 Chin 4 Neurosis 5 Preen 6 Destroy 7 Omen 9 Reservoir 13 Forester 14 Webbing 15 Stepsun 18 Scion 20 Ford 21 Dell

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

This position is from the game Tal - Vaganian, Dubne 1973. We are only just out of the opening, but Tal finished the game immediately. Can you see how?

Solution below.



Black on g8 and

2. Qxh3 Qxh3 and now 3. Qxh3 is decisive, etc.

equivalent with 1. Qxh3 and now 3. Qxh3 is decisive, etc.

as a pawn sacrifice, which weakens the black rook.

BBC1

6.00 Cee-fax (27402) 6.30 Breakfast News (27628155)
 9.05 Children's BBC: Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles. Cartoon fun (r) (6904518) 9.25 Ippo Factor: Age. A look at growing old and an interview with Cliff Richard, the "Peter Pan of Pop" (r) (4121228)
 10.00 News, regional news and weather (6588711) 10.05 Playdays (r) (s) (6370266) 10.25 Double Date. Energetic game show (r) (s) (3102063) 10.45 The O-Zone. This week's guests on the pop magazine are the group Curiosity (6026228)
 11.00 News, regional news and weather (1882624) 11.05 Kids on Kilroy: Kids. In the last programme of the series, Robert Kilroy-Silk, gives his young studio audience the chance to meet some of their heroes (8477403) 11.50 The History Man. Bryan McInerney visits Georlin mine in Cornwall (6836179)
 12.00 News, regional news and weather (7889334) 12.05 Summer Scene (5140605) 12.55 Regional News and weather (51448150)
 1.00 One O'Clock News: (Cee-fax) (45518)
 1.30 Neighbours: (Cee-fax) (4307297)
 1.50 Eldorado. Wednesday 5 episode (r) (Cee-fax) (s) (61912247)
 2.20 Film: After the Fox 1966, starring Peter Sellers, Neil Simon's jolly force about an Italian con man who escapes from jail to execute a gold bullion robbery, with the help of the police. Directed by Vittorio De Sica (357518) 4.00 Cartoon (3413570)
 4.10 Children's BBC: The All New Popeye Show. Cartoon antics (r) (1650334) 4.35 Mairi Marian and Her Merry Men. Tony Robinson's medieval comedy series (r) (Cee-fax) (6201976) 5.00 Newsround (9631324) 5.05 Byker Grove. Twelfth episode of an 18-part children's drama (r) (Cee-fax) (4782957)
 5.35 Neighbours (r) (Cee-fax) (s) (646315) Northern Ireland: Inside Ulster
 6.00 Six O'Clock News with John Humphrys and Moira Stuart. (Cee-fax) (45518)
 6.30 Regional news magazines (624). Northern Ireland: Neighbours (r) (Cee-fax) (s) (646315)
 7.00 Eldorado. The pilloried sack goes bravely on. (Cee-fax) (s) (7995)
 7.30 Bread. Carla Lane's rum comedy series. The Liverpoolian clan visits Nellie Boswell in hospital (r) (Cee-fax) (s) (808)
 8.00 Birds of a Feather: Cuckoo. Domestic comedy in the company of Chipwell's prison widows. (Cee-fax) (s) (646315)
 8.30 Joker in the Pack. Marti Caine invites members of the public to share their sense of humour. (Cee-fax) (s) (5150)
 9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Michael Bueri. (Cee-fax) Regional news and weather (3422154)



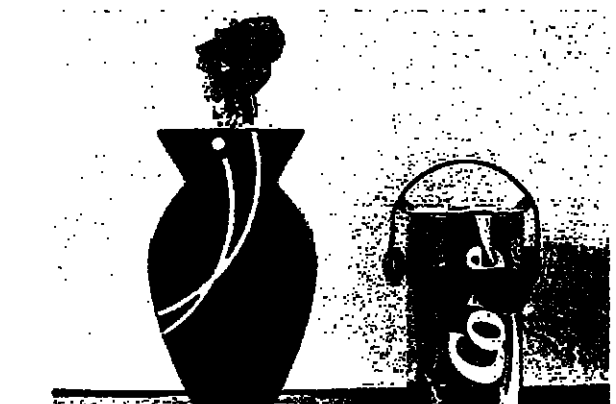
The moonlighting psychologist: Nicholas Clay (9.30pm)

9.30 Virtual Murder: A Dream of Dracula. The moonlighting psychologist and his assistant investigate a case of blood-lust and obsession. Julian Clay plays a flamboyant coffin maker. With Nicholas Clay and Kim Thomson. (Cee-fax) (s) (987334)
 10.20 Proms on One. James Naughtie introduces another recording from the Proms at the Albert Hall. The concert begins with the Philharmonia Orchestra under Claudio Abbado performing Weber's overture Der Freischütz, followed by Brahms's Double Concerto, with the violinist Dmitry Sitkovetsky and the cellist Mischa Maisky (s) (3422150)
 11.25 Film: Murder in Coweta County (1983) starring Johnny Cash, Andy Griffith and Earl Hindman. Efficient made-for-television western based on a true story of a ruthless lawbreaker who strays in to neighbouring territory and is hounded by the police. Directed by Gary Nelson. (Cee-fax) (651779) 12.55am Weather (9066990)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes
 The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes. These numbers allow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a VideoPlus+ remote control. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call videoPlus on 0800 11234 (call charge at 49p per minute plus 36p per call) or write to VideoPlus, VTL Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8LA. VideoPlus+ (TM), Pluscode (TM) and Video Programmer are trademarks of Genstar Marketing Ltd.

BBC2

6.45-7.10 Open University. Engineering Mechanics: Vibrations (5451957) 8.00 Breakfast News (3247044)
 8.15 The Time Detectives: Was This the Garden of Eden? Magnus Magnusson tells the story of Geoffrey Bibby's 20-year archaeological dig on the island of Bahrain (r) (2726686)
 9.00 Cricket — One Day International. England v Pakistan. Tony Lewis introduces highlights of yesterday's match (r) (s) (4475315)
 9.40 Film: On the Beat (1962). b/w. Norman Wisdom has time to laugh at his own jokes, despite his two roles as an Italian jewel thief and a car thief. Directed by Robert Ashby (4870508)
 11.20 Under Sail: Our Daddy. The story of Alfred John Pengelly and his 1920s Cornish sailing lugger (r) (6771605)
 11.40 After Hours. American entertainment magazine (3165119)
 12.00 Bowls. Live coverage of the Woolwich World Bowls singles and fours championships from Worthing (s) (3023402)
 1.20 Postman Pat. Cartoon fun (r) (6316173)
 1.35 Open University. Weekend Update (r) (61186957)
 1.40 Look. Saturday. The life of Ireland's leading children's entertainer (r) (43054570)
 2.00 News and weather (95883150) followed by News. Further live coverage (s). Including at 3.00 News and weather (10154150)
 6.30 Film: Tarzan and the Jungle Boy (1968). Mike Henry's third and last outing as the ape man. Directed by Robert Gordon (90860)
 8.00 Rastri Rastri. A trenchant report on Asian women in Britain reveals how attempts to break out of their conventional roles as passive and subservient wives and mothers has led to family conflict, deceit and violence. The programme also suggests that the high suicide rate among British Asian women, which is double that of whites, is linked to the difficulty of reconciling the expectations of traditional family life with the pursuit of a career. One of the women in the film, a 24-year-old law student, tried to kill herself because she felt stifled by home life. Two other women risked social stigma by getting divorced, rather than endure violent or unfulfilled marriages. A fourth woman, who is both married and has a successful career, admits trouble at home by seeing her husband for a year without her parents' knowledge (s) (1957)
 8.30 Gardeners' World. Liz Rygiel visits a terraced house in east London and discovers a tropical paradise (3792)
 9.00 Naked Video. Comedy sketches from Scotland (r) (7976)
 9.30 Signs of the Times: Red Drives Me Nuts. Perceptions of good and bad taste (r) (985976)



The latest gear: A vase and a musical clock (9.30pm)

10.20 10 x 10: The Fall. Striking drama about a paralysed dancer which won the 1991 Grand Prix Video Dance (r) (97886)
 10.30 newswatch with James Cox (1302624)
 11.15 What the Papers Say. A review of the week's press by Michael Leapman, a regular contributor to The Independent (375605)
 11.30 Edinburgh Nights. Highlights of the Chinese State Circus on their first tour of Britain (s) (488228) 12.00am Weather (1809990)
 12.15 Film: My Name is Julia Ross (1945, b/w)
 ● CHOICE: The American director John H. Lewis spent his career in B movies, where he went largely unnoticed until he was rediscovered by movie critics in the 1950s and became a cult figure. There was then a tendency to overpraise him at the expense of more fashionable names. His achievement, limited but often effective, was to lift banal material by enhancing character, creating mood and injecting style. A crisp thriller with disturbing undertones, My Name is Julia Ross belongs with the better known Gun Crazy as the peak of Lewis's achievement. Nina Foch plays the hapless Julia who falls into the clutches of wealthy old Mrs Hughes (Dame May Whitty) and her psychotic son (George Macready) and looks set for an early funeral (3513844). Ends at 1.25

ITV

6.00 TV-am (6550614)
 9.25 Jumble. Anagram game show. The guests are Linda Lusardi and Henry Cooper (s) (793715) 9.55 Thames News (2943860)
 10.00 Adventures of the Galaxy Rangers. Space adventure (2960537)
 10.25 The Fantastic Adventures of Mr. Roost. Animated tales (r) (2963624) 10.55 ITN News headlines (3207773)
 11.00 Which Way 18+. Educational and careers advice for school leavers. Ring the helpline on freephone 0800 789100 from 9am-7pm (4520711) 11.55 Thames News (9484266)
 11.55 Cartoon (6804575)
 12.10 Rainbow. Early learning series (5131112)
 12.30 ITN Lunchtime News with Sonia Russek and Nicholas Owen. (Oracle) Weather (7717112) 1.05 Thames News (63186082)
 1.15 Home and Away. (Oracle) (887624)
 1.45 A Country Practice. Australian medical drama series (s) (866995)
 2.15 Highway to Heaven: The Silent Bell. Michael Landon's earthbound angel tries to quell religious dissent at a nursery school (s) (2969532) 3.10 ITN News headlines (4593537) 3.15 Thames News headlines (4592808)
 3.20 The Young Doctors (6324889)
 3.50 Children's ITV: The Adventures of Teddy Ruxpin. Cartoon (r) (4475957) 4.15 Palace Hill. Comedy series about a comprehensive school (r) (s) (759402) 4.45 The Red Ghostbusters (r) (6292228)
 5.10 Home and Away (r). (Oracle) (4709624)
 5.40 ITN Early Evening News with Carol Barnes. (Oracle) Weather (824266) 5.55 Crime Monthly Preview (147995)
 6.00 Six O'Clock Live. In the final edition of the Friday night magazine, Frank Bough and the team welcome celebrities on London's South Bank. Anna Maria Ashe reads the local news (88150)
 7.00 Family Fortunes. Game show hosted by Les Dennis (s) (2063)
 7.30 Coronation Street. (Oracle) (976)
 8.00 International Athletics. Jim Rosenthal introduces coverage of the Berlin Grand Prix from the city's Olympic stadium. Commentary by Alan Parry, Peter Matthews and Steve Overt (9709)



The case against culling: Tsavo national park (9.00pm)

9.00 Survival Special: Keepers of the Kingdom
 ● CHOICE: A film by the experienced wildlife cameraman Simon Trevor makes a persuasive case against the culling of elephants. Trevor is not just concerned with ethics. His main point is that elephants are good for the environment and should be left alone. He lives and works in Tsavo national park in Kenya, where the policy has been to resist culling and let nature take its course. He concedes that elephants are no friends of trees but claims that the destruction of bushland has encouraged the growth of grasses and shrubs and allowed tourists a better view of wildlife. Footage shot over 20 years demonstrates how Tsavo has benefited from new vegetation. In case we are still not convinced, Trevor slips in film of a cull in South Africa, where elephants suffer a slow and painful death before being chopped up for pet food. (Oracle) (9565)
 10.00 News at Ten with Alastair Stewart and Carol Barnes. (Oracle) Weather (121678) 10.35 LWT News (110911)
 10.40 Crime Monthly. Paul Ross reports on current police investigations in the London region (929605)
 11.40 newswatch. Investigates the people who reap financial rewards from legal and illegal drugs (r) (536889)
 12.10am Sledge Hammer. Spoof American police series (2213174)
 12.40 Rescue 911. Star Trek's William Shatner presents real-life drama with the American emergency services (9296313)
 1.45 American Gladiators. Tests of strength and ingenuity (6618754)
 2.45 Cinema Attractions. Presented by Charlie Tuna (94700)
 3.15 Rave Review. The latest rock and heavy metal videos (s) (466657)
 4.15 Matchroom Snooker. Fortis Hotels championship (1283261)
 5.30 ITN Morning News with Anne Leuchars. (83385). Ends at 6.00

CHANNEL 4

6.00 The Channel Four Daily (8360696)
 9.25 Radar Men from the Moon. Space adventure (7904605)
 9.50 Dennis. Cartoon fun with the mischievous boy (2942131)
 9.55 Get Smart. Spoof espionage series (9022353)
 10.25 Film: Aunt Sally (1933, b/w). Crazy musical comedy starring Cicely Courtneidge and Sam Hardy. An aspiring nightclub singer pretends to be a French star and is abducted by American gangsters. Directed by Tim Whelan (84170315)
 12.00 Land of Hope: It's Time. Last episode of the Australian drama series. With Mark Owen-Taylor (r) (97808)
 1.00 Sesame Street. Early learning series (r) (73228)
 2.00 I Love Lucy: Ethel's Home Town (b/w). Comedy with Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz. Lucy's neighbour, Ethel (Vivian Vance), is mistaken for a star (5848315)
 2.25 Channel 4 Reel. John Francombe introduces an afternoon of racing from Sandown, sponsored by the composer Andrew Lloyd Webber. The lineup is: 2.35 Amazing Joseph Dream Mile; 3.10 Starlight Express Roller Stakes; 3.40 Sunset Boulevard Solaris Stakes; 4.10 Cats 11th Year Stakes (74703315)
 4.30 Countdown. Words and numbers game (s) (889)
 5.00 Secret History. Was Senator Robert Kennedy the victim of a CIA conspiracy? (r). (Teletext) (9976)
 6.00 Blossoms: Henson? American comedy series about a teenage girl living in a male household (s) (222)
 6.30 Happy Days: Here Comes the Bride — Again. Marion and Howard decide to renew their vows. With Marion Ross, Tom Bosley and Henry Winkler. (Teletext) (334)
 7.00 Channel 4 News with John Snow. (Teletext) Weather (282518)
 7.50 First Reaction. Controversial opinions on the arts (491808)
 8.00 Brookside. (Teletext) (s) (9353)
 8.30 In with Mavis. Mavis Nicholson talks to the playwright, novelist and former barrister John Mortimer (r). (Teletext) (8860)
 9.00 Athletics '92. Jim Rosenthal presents highlights of the GRE Clubs Cup final from the Don Valley Stadium in Sheffield (8957)
 10.00 Roseanne: Allens. The last in the current series of the wackadoodie comedy series. Roseanne struggles to keep the home fires burning while looking for a new job. Starring Roseanne Arnold and John Goodman. (Teletext) (s) (67179)



Roses rather than gladioli: Dame Edna Everage (10.30pm)

10.30 An Audience with Dame Edna. The Melbourne housewife and megastar entertains a star-studded audience (r) (5343860)
 11.35 Film: The Crimson Kimono (1960, b/w)
 ● CHOICE: A dark and unusual thriller features Glenn Corbett and James Shigeta as detectives investigating the murder of a stripper in the Little Tokyo district of Los Angeles. While on the case they meet an artist (Victoria Shaw) and both fall in love with her. She prefers the Japanese-American Shigeta, causing the two men to fall out. Writer-director Samuel Fuller deftly combines the three elements, the pursuit of the killer, the love story and the racial theme, and gives the film his usual pace and energy. In support of the little-known lead, Anna Lee contributes a flamboyant study of an alcoholic painter. The film gains from being shot mostly on location in Los Angeles and the murder scene includes real passers-by, unaware that they were being used as extras (235599)
 1.00am Twilight Zone: The Prime Mover (b/w). A gambler discovers that his boss has strange powers and devises a plot to win a fortune in Las Vegas. Starring Dane Larsen (6418551). Ends at 1.25

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

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